Senator: CPA does not have master plan. PAGE 2
Junior Hillbroom convicted again in Palau. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

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$15K worth of cocaine and ecstasy seized at post office

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Illegal drugs hidden inside box of cookie mix

A routine inspection made by CNMI Division of Customs officers in one of the packages at the United States Postal Office in Chalan Kanoa resulted in the seizure of cocaine and ecstasy pills last May.

The bust had an estimated value of about $15,000 with the 65 grams of cocaine pegged at $10,000, while the 100 pieces of ecstasy have an estimated value of $5,000 or $50 per pill.

Customs director Jose Mafnas said this was part of their continued efforts

See $15K on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Photos of the cocaine and ecstasy pills that were seized by CNMI Customs officers at the U.S. Postal Office.

Lawmaker wants NMI designated as high intensity drug trafficking area

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A local lawmaker wants to designate the NMI as a high intensity drug trafficking area in a letter submitted to a federal office under the White House.

In a letter dated June 8, 2018, Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) requested to director Michael Botticelli of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, under the White House, to designate the NMI as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, or HIDTA.

Palacios noted that HIDTA designation would allow for greater cooperation and sharing of information

See LAWMAKER on Page 4

BEA CABRERA

With a month to go before the deadline to complete the Imperial Pacific casino and resort hotel, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLV vice president for construction Eric Pool, second from left, said, "We are still finalizing a lot of documentation in the extension package during a presentation at the Commonwealth Casino Commission regular meeting held yesterday at Joeten-Kiyu Public Library conference room in Susupe.

FOR COMPLETION OF IMPERIAL PACIFIC RESORT

Casino licensee says it won't make August deadline

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC will not be able to comply with the August 2018 target date of completion for its Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan.

IPI is now looking to move the original date

See CASINO on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL

The 2018 Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter cohort had a whirlwind tour of CNMI's health facilities during its June session held last June 13.

PAGE 6

NATION

When Lidia Karine Souza would call her 9-year-old son he would beg his mom though tears to do everything in her power to get him out of U.S. government custody and back to her.

PAGE 29

LIFE & STYLE

Joe Jackson he realized early on that there was an overwhelming pool of musical talent in his children, particularly a little bright-eyed boy named Michael.

PAGE 31

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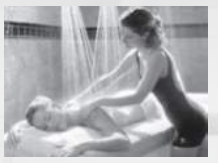
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Senator: CPA does not have master plan

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan) is requesting that he be invited to the next meeting between the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Rota Legislative Delegation to discuss the situation of Rota while air services troubles continue.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) informed Igisomar during the last moments of yesterday's Senate session that CPA met with the local delegation on Wednesday.

» Rota delegation met with CPA

Manglona noted that the agency cited the lack of professional expertise to apply for federal programs and exceptions and the need to amend a federal law exempting territories from essential air subsidies, among others, as their prime hindrances to their progress with resolving the loss of air services on Rota.

"I am hoping that the next time you have a meeting with CPA that you call me in there," Igisomar told Manglona. "All of these reasons are [thousands of years old]. There is no master plan at the airport, senator Paul."

Igisomar noted that the essential air services that the CPA was referring to as well as the CPA's need for professional services were all "discussed in reports and were reported by the Senate Public Utilities and Transportation Committee."

Igisomar chairs the Senate PUTC.

"I am respectfully requesting to…call me into that meeting," Igisomar requested to Rota delegation chair Sen.

See SENATOR on Page 4

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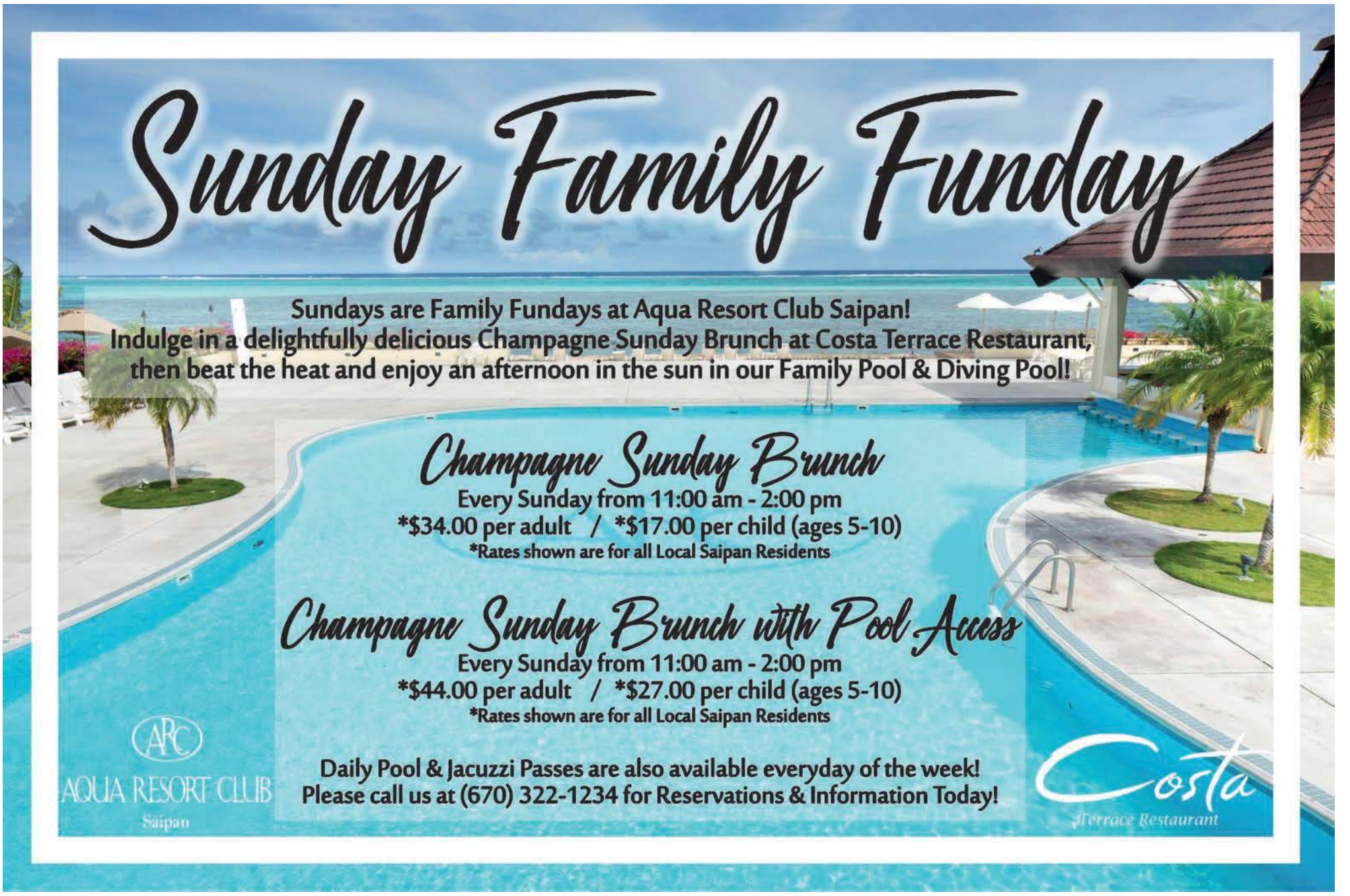
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Junior Hillbroom convicted again in Palau

Junior Larry Hillbroom was convicted again in Palau and was slapped on Wednesday with a 10-year supervised probation.

Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau Trial Division Associate Justice Lourde P. Materne said the 10 years of supervised probation shall be reduced to seven years provided Hillbroom successfully completes an inpatient rehabilitation program.

Materne said Hillbroom shall serve five years in jail if he fails to complete the inpatient rehabilitation program.

A copy of Materne's order was filed yesterday before the U.S. District Court for the NMI by Hillbroom's counsel Rachel A. Dimitruk. Hillbroom has a pending civil legal malpractice lawsuit in District Court against his former two lawyers.

Hillbroom and the Palau government have entered a plea agreement in his two criminal cases.

Pursuant to the plea deal, the defendant pleaded a "no contest" to conspiracy to traffic a controlled substance-methamphetamine.

In return, the Palau government moved to dismiss the remaining three counts in the two cases. Materne granted the motion.

Materne accepted the plea deal and sentenced Hillbroom pursuant to the agreement.

Materne ordered the defendant to pay a $50,000 fine to be deducted from the bond posted with the remainder returned to the poster.

The associate justice said incarceration will commence on Sept. 25, 2018, unless Hillbroom has entered the inpatient rehabilitation program.

Many other conditions were imposed on Hillbroom.

Hillbroom will be allowed to travel prior to Sept. 25, 2018, if necessary, for his pending litigation on Saipan, but he must be accompanied by two police officers.

The travel expenses, including for the two officers, shall be Hillbroom's responsibility.

Hillbroom was arrested last October in Palau for allegedly trafficking methamphetamine or "ice."

According to the charges, Hillbroom delivered or possessed methamphetamine on April 11 and May 9, 2017.

Hillbroom was released from jail last August after serving a 60-day prison sentence in Palau for pleading guilty to an escape charge.

Hillbroom filed a legal malpractice in District Court against his former counsel, Barry Israel and Guam lawyer David J. Lujan.

In early 2017, Hillbroom pleaded guilty to a lesser included offense of escape in the second degree before the Supreme Court of the Republic of Palau Trial Division and was slapped with a 60-day prison term.

He was recaptured in Palau hours after he escaped from police's custody on Feb. 9, 2016 just a few hours after he was arrested over the seizure of $160,000 worth of methamphetamine or "ice."

Hillbroom is one of the four DNA-proven children of the late business tycoon and DHL co-founder Larry Lee Hillblom.

Hillbroom's name is spelled differently from DHL co-founder Hillblom. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

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$15K

From Page 1

in protecting the CNMI's borders "Two months ago, during a routine inspection at the post office, our officers intercepted 65 grams of cocaine and 100 pills of ecstasy."

"We tried some operation to catch the owner of the package but after weeks of controlled surveillance, we think the owner [was given a] tip. Good thing though that [the drugs] did not end up at anybody's hands," Mafnas told the media in yesterday's press conference at the Governor's Office conference room on Capital Hill.

Customs Captain Jesse Atalig said the package originated from Southern California with the sender trying to pass the contents as a brand of cookie mix destined to be picked up by a recipient on Saipan, who's name wasn't disclosed.

Private postal representatives pick up mail and other packages by their customers at the U.S. Post Office, and then put it inside the boxes that they rent. The customers then check their boxes daily for their mail.

Atalig said this is the first time that they discovered a package like this and added that Customs officials also check all outgoing packages at the CK post office, including those picked up by private postal boxes.

"It is addressed to the same individual but a lot of individuals use fictitious names. If you have connections with a private postal, you will get a phone call to get the package," added Atalig.

"During inspection that is where we discovered the ecstasy and cocaine. The [officers] who made [the inspection] physically, they were not first sure so the [K-9 unit] dogs were called in and it was then verified, and we were alerted," said Atalig.

He said they then used a field test kit where a piece of the seized contraband was dropped in one of their solution to determine if the contents are illegal substances. "It turned out to be positive."

"This is the first time [that] this thing happened since the early or mid-'90s. They used Saipan as transshipment before like 20 kilos of cocaine going to Australia and China," added Atalig.

Mafnas said that CNMI Customs has formed a partnership with the U.S. Postal Service in trying to keep the CNMI safe from illegal substances. "They did not know that we're there, too [U.S. Post Office]. We have access to examine packages. Once they leave the post office, our authority kicks in. We are authorized to check."

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, center, poses with Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, left, CNMI Division of Customs director Jose Mafnas, right, and other Customs officers after yesterday's press conference at the conference room of the Governor's Office on Capital Hill.

JON PEREZ

"Every port is adequately manned to ensure that none of this end up in the hands of our citizens. We are glad that we caught it early. Enforcement starts at the ports and that is how we monitor everything."

Mafnas added these could be the transition of some drug users from crystal meth or "ice" to cocaine, but the former remains to have a great impact in the CNMI. "We are watchful for that. It is not to say that we are not concerned with crystal meth but we're adding another type of drug into our watch."

"Four years ago, the street value of crystal meth is $130 per gram, but we spoke to one of the officers—working with informants—the word is that it shot up to $1,200 per gram. The word out on the street, based on the informant, is the CNMI is dry. So we are making an impact and we know that the programs that we are implementing now are working."

Always on their toes

Mafnas lauded the enforcement programs they had put in place, through the support of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Finance Secretary Larissa Larson. "We're doing a lot of major reforms and practices. Secretary Larson is always working behind the scenes; she always pushes us to move forward and is actively working with us.

"Thank you governor, secretary, and the Customs staff that are working with me to make sure our borders are protected, the revenue is collected, and we keep on doing what we do best."

He said they would follow the directive given to them by Torres to the letter. "Our message to drug smugglers: we are fully manned, fully equipped, and we are trained to protect our borders. We will never let out guards down and we will continue to do our best in protecting the gates to the CNMI at all ports of entry at all costs."

"That is the directive I got from the governor because he understands. Two years ago, when we had a meeting, he supports Customs among all law enforcements in our efforts at the ports. If you choke the ports of entry and not allow any illegal narcotics or dangerous weapons to enter, it would not result to drug related crimes."

Torres also lauded the work done by all Customs officials. "Thank for all the hard work and continuing to do it. If you choke the entry and put our dedication in removing 80 percent of drugs from entering, then [the Department of Public Safety] will only have 20 percent of work on the street. It will be less families, 20 percent, that we need to focus on."

"I support [all law enforcement agencies] but we need to support Customs since it alleviates the work of DPS. Instead of focusing on 80 percent of drug-related incidents, let's focus on other issues because Customs is focused on eliminating and reducing the entry of drugs."

CASINO

From Page 1

from August to end of December this year.

"The development of the resort hotel experienced a big jump and we are trying to [do] everything and get ready for the inspection by the end of the year," said IPI vice president for construction Eric Poon during the regular meeting of the Commonwealth Casino Commission held yesterday at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library conference room in Susupe.

He said construction at the Imperial Pacific Resort site experienced a big leap from 45 percent to 68 percent complete during the last couple of months.

"Overall, our focus is on the three areas—resort hotel, hotel tower that includes the building facade and roof, and the external works which is in front of the hotel lobby," he said.

Non-completion of construction would necessitate an amendment of the casino license agreement and the officers of the CCC cannot overemphasize the urgency of the matter.

According to CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero, talks of submitting request for extension have been discussed many times and IPI is aware of this.

"Every meeting that we have, we impress upon the need for IPI to identify how much more time they need because August is right around the corner. I don't think we should be putting this pressure upon IPI so you understand what needed to be done, but I think we need to know who is going to make the decision so we can direct our inquiry to that person to say what are you waiting for," he said.

"CCC regulations adopted the casino license agreement so any changes into the agreement requires us to go back and change our own regulation to be compatible with the agreement as we absorb the agreement as part of the regulatory functions " he added.

Joseph Reyes, vice chairman of CCC, echoed Deleon Guerrero's concern.

"We are the regulators and I'm sure you understand our role. We regulate your activities and we don't want to hit you with another sanction for failure to prepare ahead of time to resolve this," he said.

Reyes added, "to change regulations to accommodate your extension requires time… we are already in the month of July so we got about a month and government process takes a long time. There may be some factors for delay that could create another setback."

Poon said they have been working with the Development Planning Advisory Council in coming up with their extension package.

"We are still finalizing a lot of documentation and it's not a 10-20-page extension package… we still have a lot of information that we have to prepare and consult with our general contractor to once again get the construction and manpower schedule. It's been taking a very long time but we are almost there."

Poon also assured CCC that the extension request would come from IPI's upper management. "We also have a legal team working with our DPAC team… many people in different departments are involved to get the information together… and these are highly confidential matters and we cannot release anything until we have everyone to agree… all I can tell you is we are working on it."

The request for extension will be the sixth amendment to the casino license agreement and CCC chair Juan Sablan said that IPI should come up with a realistic deadline in the request for extension.

"Since Pacific Rim came into the picture and did preliminary assessment, you should've already known what needed to be done, what resources are lacking. Before it was manpower, then issue with the materials, but now you have materials here on Saipan… ask for a date that's realistic…because if you pick a date that is unrealistic that would require another extension… violations in the agreement require sanctions," he said.

LAWMAKER

From Page 1

between local law enforcement and other agencies, including federal agencies.

"I am optimistic that with the continued collaboration amongst our local, regional, and federal agencies that we can combat this growing threat of drug trafficking and abuse in the CNMI," he wrote.

Palacios recognized that being 8,000 miles from the mainland U.S., the NMI remains to be one of the last remaining regions without HIDTA designation despite the international coastal access and close proximity to several foreign countries such as China, the Philippines, Japan, and Hong Kong.

"Methamphetamine [ice] use and trafficking are serious threats to the islands, resulting in increased criminal activity and addiction. On behalf of our community, our legislators are committed to combating the ongoing concerns and related issues connected to this growing threat," he wrote.

The HIDTA program was created by the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. The program provides assistance to federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies operating in areas that are designated as a HIDTA.

According to the Drug Enforcement Agency website, there are currently 28 HIDTAs, which include about 18 percent of all counties in the U.S. and 66 percent of the U.S. population. All 28 HIDTA designations are located across all states, including Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. Alaska only recently received their HIDTA designation last May.

SENATOR

From Page 2

Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota).

Mesngon mentioned in a statement that Guam Gov. Eddie B. Calvo, Guam Sen. Wil Castro, Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU), and Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) were all willing to help Rota get their air services back.

"Before U.S. Congress, Sablan, and Bordallo can help, it has to kick off from our end… The reason why this is not happening is because the dendrites are not connecting properly—there is no master plan to show that," said Igisomar.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) noted that in Wednesday's meeting with CPA, they discovered that a new airline owed by a U.S. company based in Florida, named Micronesia Air Express, has submitted its request for approval to the U.S. Department of Transportation to have its routing of flights scheduled and have its aircrafts cleared and safe for passengers within the Commonwealth and Guam.

"The company has also sought approval from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Transportation Security Administration…to accommodate the passengers and their use of a [hangar] in the airport," she said.

"Once the company gets the approval, it is anticipated that they may perhaps begin providing air passenger services between the Commonwealth and Guam by September," reported Santos. "It is a development that remains to be seen."

Igisomar in mid-June 2018 told *Saipan Tribune* that he is looking to conduct an oversight hearing over CPA as the Senate PUTC chairman. Igisomar noted in yesterday's session that in order to progress form the situation, it should first begin.

United Airlines, in response to a letter sent by Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), offered proposals that included the addition of flights servicing Rota in exchange for annual subsidies that would cost the CNMI government between $1 million and $8 million.

Palacios noted that in order to move forward, all the options must first be recognized—including weighing discussions with other airlines such as Star Marianas Airlines, which does not currently have regular flights servicing Rota.

DPS identifies suspects in Garapan hit-and-run

Police have already identified the occupants of a car that was involved in a hit-and-run incident that mowed down a female tourist who was walking with a friend on the shoulder of Beach Road near Mascot Auto Parts in southern Garapan.

Asked for an update about the case, Department of Public Safety spokesperson Jacqueline Rae Shepard disclosed yesterday that they are waiting for the green light from the Office of the Attorney General to proceed with an arrest.

Shepard did not elaborate.

DPS earlier disclosed that police have identified persons of interest.

Last June 12, Shepard said after an extensive search, police officers found the car—a four-door turquoise Toyota Corolla—and impounded it. A "person of interest" is not necessarily a suspect and is usually not arrested.

The incident happened in the afternoon last June 8.

Police investigation showed that two Chinese female tourists were walking on the northbound shoulder of Beach Road and while approaching Mascot Auto Parts, the car, which was traveling north, struck one of them.

The car did not stop.

The 25-year-old victim was transported to the Commonwealth Health Center, where she was treated and released with minor injuries. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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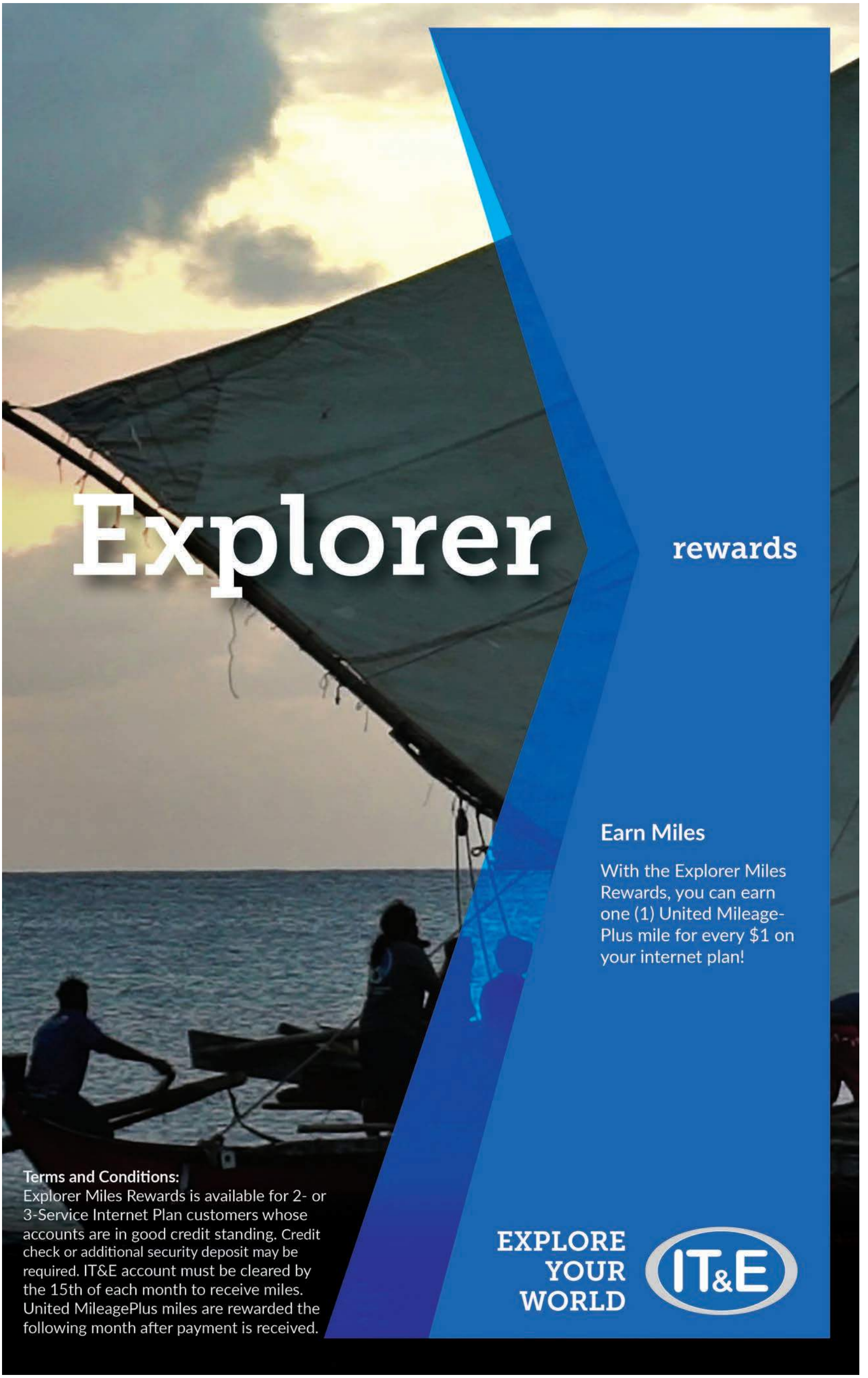
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Cohorts of the 2019 Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter pose outside the Kagman Community Health Center during their June session earlier this month.

PCF-Marianas Chapter tours health facilities

The 2018 Pacific Century Fellows-Marianas Chapter cohort had a whirlwind tour of CNMI's health facilities during its June session held last June 13.

First stop was the Hardt Eye Clinic & Diabetes Education Center where the fellows learned from Dr. Don Hardt and nurse Judith Kim how the high rate of diabetes on island is putting a strain on the local economy.

Hardt said he estimates that the government and private companies lose up to $200 million a year due to the non-communicable disease.

Kim suggests a lifestyle change like eating a balanced diet and plenty of exercise could help manage diabetes.

The fellows then drove down to the Kagman Community Health Center where they met with the center's chief executive officer Vince Castro and chief medical officer Dr. Katherine Elston.

Both officials said KCHC being a Federally Qualified Health Center guarantees that its patients are billed significantly less for medical services compared to the Commonwealth Health Center and private clinics on island.

Castro and Elston also emphasized that KCHC is "uniquely poised to help the indigent population and reduce the burden on CHC."

For example, the two said while a patient rushed to the emergency room of CHC will likely incur a $200-$400 bill, KCHC will only bill the patient as low as $40. A doctor's appointment at KCHC would also only set patients back $5.

The KCHC officials said they hope to help open other FQHC clinics in Susupe, northern Saipan, Tinian, and Rota in the future.

A quick trip to the Community Guidance Center and lunch at Kanoa Resort was followed by a meeting with Systems of Care Wraparound coordinator Guadalupe Camacho and SOC social marketing coordinator Monissa Iguel. Systems of Care is the only children's mental health clinic in the CNMI and its service is currently free.

The Hinemlu O'hala Para Enteramenti, or the H.O.P.E. Recovery Center, was the next stop for the 2018 PCF members. There, they listened to Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation Program special assistant Yvette Sablan on how promising the center has been in its first nine months of existence.

She said some 70 percent of its patients are from the CNMI Drug Court with the remaining population being walk-in patients.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. public information officer Samantha Birmingham-Babauta and Division of Public Health director Margarita Torres Aldan were the next speakers in the PCF's whirlwind session.

Birmingham-Babauta said CHCC is currently busy transitioning its 150 or so CW healthcare professionals to more appropriate visas in preparation for the end of the CW program in 2019.

Aldan, for her part, said a large portion of the CNMI population having been diagnosed with NCDs is a big challenge for Public Health.

She said that's why Public Health continues to call for a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages to reduce obesity on the local population aside from enforcing health-related statutes like the smoke-free act.

The fellows concluded their June session with a tour of the Dialysis Clinic courtesy of its manager, Nikki Tudela Sablan.

A week earlier, the fellows joined Chinese University of Hong Kong-Shaw College students in a mixer at the Chambre Bar of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Former chief of staff of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Matthew Deleon Guerrero, and local historian, Genevieve Cabrera, gave presentations about the CNMI economy and history, respectively. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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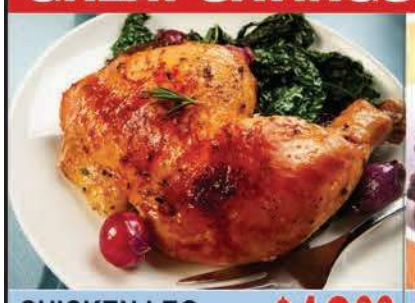
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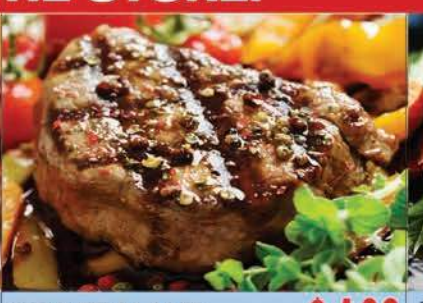
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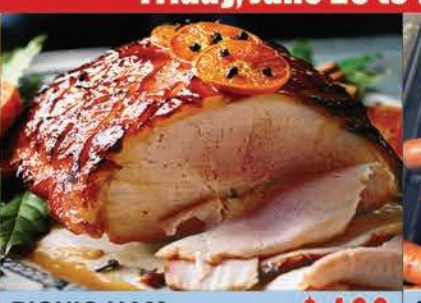
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DOC admits they sometimes make mistakes in medicine delivery to inmates

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Corrections Commissioner Vincent S. Attao and Division of Corrections director Gregory Castro have admitted that their corrections officers at times do make mistakes in medicine delivery.

Attao and Castro, through counsel assistant attorney general Hessel E. Yntema IV, however, have denied allegations that they have not provided inmate William Mathewson psychiatric and treatment since February 2017.

Attao and Castro denied they have not provided Mathewson prescribed medications for mental health in a timely and regular basis.

The two DOC officials also denied allegations that they have subjected some inmates to excessive and unreasonable solitary confinement.

Attao and Castro disclosed that DOC lacks the facilities to actually put an inmate in "solitary confinement" as it is commonly understood.

Attao and Castro discussed the conditions of Mathewson and other inmates at DOC in their response to a lawsuit filed in federal court against them by Mathewson and 13 other prisoners.

There are 15 inmates named as plaintiffs in the lawsuit. But according to Attao and Castro there are actually 14 as one plaintiff, Ji-Jing Borja, is no longer an inmate.

Mathewson, a farmer/fisherman who has been serving a 15-year prison term for stabbing and seriously injuring a Rota doctor with a fishing spear, is suing, along with other inmates, Attao and Castro.

Mathewson and the 13 other prisoners, through counsel Jeanne H. Rayphand, filed the lawsuit in federal court to remedy the defendants' alleged failure to provide them with constitutionally adequate medical care, mental health care, dental care, and eye.

The 13 other inmates are Steven Aguon, Ray Anthony Babauta, Joseph Barto, George Cruz, Donald Hocog, Nena Langu, Wei Lin, Joaquin Lizama, Daniel Mauricio, Carlos Ramangmau, Alfredo Reyes, Price Shoiter, and Xinqiang Zheng.

The inmates are suing Attao and Castro for cruel and unusual punishment for allegedly providing them inadequate medical care and inadequate mental health treatment, and subjecting them to solitary confinement.

The inmates alleged that Attao and Castro subjected them to excessive solitary confinement, in violation of the 8th and 14th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution.

In Attao's and Castro's answer to the lawsuit, Yntema said the plaintiffs were assigned to and resided in an ordinary cell in an ordinary "pod" where ordinary prisoners are kept.

Attao and Castro denied allegations of Mathewson's co-plaintiffs' allegations that they have not provided them with medical care and treatment.

Yntema said all or some of the inmates' claims for relief are barred by the Prison Litigation Reform Act, including the requirement of exhaustion of administrative remedies and grievance procedures.

Yntema said plaintiffs have failed to exhaust administrative remedies.

The government lawyer said the Commonwealth enjoy sovereign immunity and may only be sued in certain waived capacities.

Yntema said plaintiffs' claims are barred by the statute of limitations.

Yntema asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit with finality.

In their lawsuit, the inmates asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue a judgment declaring that Attao and Castro have failed to provide constitutionally adequate medical care, mental health care, dental care, and eye care to them and other prisoners in violation of the 8th and 14th Amendments.

The inmates requested the court to declare that the defendants have subjected them and other prisoners to excessive solitary confinement in violation of the 8th and 14th Amendments.

Rayphand, of the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc., asked the court to provide Mathewson psychiatric care and treatment, and medication for mental health on a regular basis.

Jerry Ray, an inmate, has recently also a separate lawsuit in federal court against Attao, Castro, and four other DOC officials suing for allegedly subjecting him to solitary confinement and isolation and failing to provide him adequate mental health care. The two officials have denied the allegations.

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Federal judge throws probationer back in jail for 14 months

Manglona

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has revoked the supervised release of federal probationer Edwin Peter Blas and sentenced him to 14 months of imprisonment for violating his terms and conditions of his release.

Blas was given credit for time already served in jail.

At a revocation/sentencing hearing last Tuesday, Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said she recommends to the Bureau of Prisons that Blas participate in Batterer Intervention and Anger Management classes or any programs similar in concept.

Upon release, the defendant will be placed on supervised release for 27 months.

During the supervised release period, Blas must submit to substance abuse testing (no more than eight tests per month), participate in a mental health treatment program, must not possess alcohol, must participate in a substance abuse treatment program, and must seek gainful employment.

After the hearing, Blas was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal.

Blas, who was with court-appointed counsel Colin Thompson, admitted to the allegations in a petition filed by the U.S. Probation Office.

Manglona, after hearing from counsel and defendant's admission, and after reviewing the evidence, found that Blas had violated his conditions of supervised release.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto, counsel for the U.S. government, recommended a sentence of 12 months of imprisonment and 27 months of supervised release.

Blas' wife addressed the court in support of her husband.

U.S. probation officer Gregory F. Arriola sought the revocation of Blas after a police report was filed accusing him of punching his wife, hitting her mouth with a beer can, and shattering the windows of her car with a beer can and rock at a beach in Chalan Kanoa last June 10.

Arriola said Blas was drunk during the assault and was also intoxicated when he (Arriola) visited him at a house in Chalan Kanoa last June 11.

Blas is a registered sex offender and has previous convictions in the U.S. District Court and Superior Court. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

JKPL closed on July 4

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, 2018 for the Independence Day holiday. Regular summer hours (see below) will resume on Thursday, July 5th, 2018. Enjoy your holiday with family and friends.

For the latest news and events, please visit the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's website at www.cnmilib.org and like and/or follow JKPL's Facebook page, @joeten kiyu. The library's summer hours are as follows (effective June 12-Aug. 4): Tuesday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm, Saturday, 9am-4pm, and closed Sundays, Mondays, and holidays. ***(PR)***

Saipan Tribune
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Saipan MP 96950

Evelyn P Calvo
PO Box 502652
Saipan MP 96950

Fallen Heroes Memorial Group
PO Box 506533
Saipan MP 96950

Fausto B Herno
PO Box 500002
Saipan MP 96950

Fe A Tsuji
PO Box 502308
Saipan MP 96950

Federico J Echavez Jr
PMB 456 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Felix U Palacios
PO Box 506547 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Fengxiang Pang
PO Box 504940
Saipan MP 96950

Fengzhong Zhao

Feodor R Rapadas
Christina C Rapadas
PMB 627 Box 100000
Saipan MP 96950

Member FDIC

The following is a list of accounts on deposit with First Hawaiian Bank: Checking accounts which have been inactive for 6 months or more; and Savings, Maximizer, and Money Market Accounts which have been inactive for 24 months or more as of 6/23/18.The funds from these accounts are scheduled to be transferred to the Commonwealth Treasurer during the month of Oct 2018. This is in compliance with the amendment to Section 20-20.4-005 (b) of the Northern Mariana Island Administrative Code Title 20 Department of Commerce Regulations. If your name is listed, please contact the Customer Consultant or Service Manager at First Hawaiian Bank, Gualo Rai or Oleai Branch, as soon as possible.

Ferlina H Marcelo
PMB 757 PPP Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Florida F. Florendo
PO Box 504726
Saipan MP 96950

Floyd B Dela Cruz
DBA Cam's Lawn Care
PO Box 502785
Saipan MP 96950

Francine JM Agulto
Jose B Agulto
PO Box 7749 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Francisco Ada
PO Box 506157
Saipan MP 96950

Francis A Tokuyuk
PO Box 501766 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Francis Sarah D Angui
PO Box 505304
Saipan MP 96950

Frank William M Sablan Jr
PO Box 500252
Saipan MP 96950

Fred I Olamai
PO Box 506307
Saipan MP 96950

Fumio Kuramoto
2 15 Ishizuka Yokkaichi
510-0828

Gabriel Angelo P Retardo
PO Box 1000 PMB 173
Saipan MP 96950

Galaide HN Fund, LLC
PO Box 500209
Saipan MP 96950

Gegang Pang
PO Box 10003 PMB 678
Saipan MP 96950

Genevieve B Gono
PO Box 503792
Saipan MP 96950

George D Peterka
Laura Jan Peterka
PMB 112 PPP Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Geraldine Sue D Tenorio
PO Box 506158
Saipan MP 96950

Gerlie B Ogasawara
Mark Baluran Ogasawara
PMB 351 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Gianpaolo S. Borromeo
PO Box 506457
Saipan MP 96950

Gina Ignacio
PO Box 502634
Saipan MP 96950

Gladina Segui Buendia
PO Box 500066
Saipan MP 96950

Gladys Lozano Guintu
PO Box 234
Tinian MP 96951

Glen Esblaca Gemao

Gloria Jane P Madarang
PO BOx 501031
Saipan MP 96950

Grand Saipan Resort & Spa LLC
PMB 29 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Gregoria R Fitial-Omar
Delfina C Manglona
PO Box 501487
Saipan MP 96950

GSRS Lender Manager LLC
PMB 29 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Guang Hua Yi
PO Box 503078
Saipan MP 96950

Guangliang Huang
PO Box 10003 PMB 128
Saipan MP 96950

Gui Lan Xu
PO Box 10002 PMB 412
Saipan MP 96950

Guilong Zhang
PO Box 504602
Saipan MP 96950

Guiming Zheng
PO Box 10003 PM 688
Saipan MP 96950

Guo Jun Miao
PO Box 10003 PMB 778
Saipan MP 96950

Guo Teng Li
PO Box 10003 PMB 22
Saipan MP 96950

Guy Cihi
PO Box 10001 PMB 422
Saipan MP 96950

Gwangghee Chu
PO Box 502369
Saipan MP 96950

H & H Enterprises Inc
PO BOx 10001 PMB 665
Saipan MP 96950

Haemin Lee
PO Box 500066
Saipan MP 96950

Hafmao Imran Hossain
PO Box 504964
Saipan MP 96950

Haiquiang Wen
PO Box 503015
Saipan MP 96950

Hai Tao Fan
PO Box 10002 PMB 278
Saipan MP 96950

Haitong Tang
PMB 598 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Hai Tung Lee
PMB 768 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Haiwang Su

Hai Xin Cao
PO Box 503555
Saipan MP 96950

Hang Zheng
PO BOx 10003 PMB 768
Saipan MP 96950

Haohe, LLC
PO Box 504951
Saipan MP 96950

Hao Xu
PMB 885 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Henry Worswick Jr
PO Box 500980
Saipan MP 96950

Hermina M Mettao
PO Box 504892
Saipan MP 96950

Herui Xu
PMB 710 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Hirohisa Suzuki
Shinikecho 1-19-1 201 Chigo
Nagoya Japan 464-0027

Hi Sook Shin
PO Box 5087
Saipan MP 96950

Hiroyuki Kawanobe
1-4-1 Mikamine Taihaku-Ku
Sendai Japan 982-0826

Hiroyuki Masuyama
5 39 5 Tsukaguchi Amagashi
Hyogo Japan 661-0002

Hitoshi Nishio
1-23-4-202 Higashi-Nakano
Tokyo Japan 164-0003

Ho Lon Tam
PMB 98 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Hongshan Jin
PO Box 5423
Saipan MP 96950

Hongli Huang
PMB 1763 PO Box 10002
Saipan MP 96950

Hoodiap57 Co
PO Box 505478
Saipan MP 96950

Hpil Limited/Payroll Account
PO Box 506172 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Hsi-Hsuan Hung
PMB 737 Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Huihui Shi
PMB 102 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Hui Wen Li
MMM 055 Box 10010
Saipan MP 96950

Hun Chul Shin
PMB 164 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Hyan Ah Cho
PO Box 10001 PMB 314
Saipan MP 96950

Hye Joo In
PO Box 504663
Saipan MP 96950

Hye Seon Hwang
PO Box 100 PMB 218
Saipan MP 96950

Hyun Jeong Jang
PO Box 505502
Saipan MP 96950

Hyun Woo Lee
Gui Hee Lim
Samho Villa C-303
104-5 Chung Dam-Dong

Ichiro Shirata
Rosemarie C Shirata

Ila Nicole S Seman
PO Box 10001 PMB 909
Saipan MP 96950

In Taek Hwang
PO Box 10000 PMB 158
Saipan MP 96950

Io Chong Chu
PMB 737 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Irina Tregubova
Mikhail Trebubov
Blukhera St 14 Apartment
Khabarovsk Russia 68-0020

Irish Mae E Arbinoya
PO Box 10003 PMB 79
Saipan MP 96950

Irma L Morales-Halaby
Dept 121 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Isabel V Camacho
PO Box 501515
Saipan MP 96950

Isako Matsunaga

Isao Usui
PO Box 5087 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Jade Gold T Rios
Emilia Taisacan Rios
PO Box 500107
Saipan MP 96950

Jaehee Jo
PMB A-7 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Jafet Elayda Acuavera

Jagdish M Daryananni
Golden Crown Court 68
7th Floor Flat H TST
Kowloon Hong Kong

Jahid Hossen
PO Box 504818
Saipan MP 96950

Jamal Davood Sumo
Gutzwiller-Malakut
Regula Antonio Gutzwiller-Malakut
Schulgasse 10
Switzerland 4106

James N Harris DBA Legend
Security & Private Investigation
PO Box 501339
Saipan MP 96950

James W K Ripple
PO Box 501585
Saipan MP 96950

Jana C Tudela
PO Box 501613 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Jane Nicole C Mozunder
PO Box 505582
Saipan MP 96950

Janelle DLC Santiago
PO Box 502660
Saipan MP 96950

Janice C Stanley
Alphonsus G Stanley
PO Box 7925 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

JB Corporation
Fresh Up Market
PMB 236 Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

Jeanette R Yamamoto
PO Box 505743
Saipan MP 96950

Jeffrey Fitial Olopai DBA RLP
PO Box 502181
Saipan MP 96950

Jennifer D Nario
PO Box 505856
Saipan MP 96950

Jeong Wook Choi

Jeongeun Park
PMB 2019 PO Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

Jermaine Arnie M Soriano
PO Box 503348
Saipan MP 96950

Jerramie G Rivera
PO Box 501992
Saipan MP 96950

Jesse Jack H Tenorio
PO Box 502336
Saipan MP 96950

Jesse James DLG Cabrera
PO Box 505302
Saipan MP 96950

Jessica S. Deleon Guerrero

Jesus Eugenio Bernardo Dela Cruz
PO Box 501294
Saipan MP 96950

Jesus Laura Atalig
Josephine Atalig Palacios
PO Box 7644 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Jesus LG Takai
DBA Takai & Associates
PO Box 500263
Saipan MP 96950

Jesus Roann D Awa
PO Box 10002 PMB 4151
Saipan MP 96950

Jesusa Pangelinan Sablan
PO Box 501321
Saipan MP 96950

Jet Holding Company, INC.
PO Box 500029
Saipan MP 96950

Jether Ngiratol R Yobech
PO Box 5230
Saipan MP 96950

Jezrael Delos Santos Navarro
PO Box 505866
Saipan MP 96950

Jia Liu
PO Box 10012 PMB 218
Saipan MP 96950

Jian Dong He
PMB 368 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Jiangtao Guo

Jian Huan Su
PO Box 501147
Saipan MP 96950

Jianjun Li

Jianlin She
PO Box 10003 PMB 301
Saipan MP 96950

Jiao Sun
PMB 918 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Jiaxin Zhong
PO Box 10003 PMB 1176
Saipan MP 96950

Jin An Kim
PO Box 504688 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Jin Cui
Yujie Cui
PMB 308 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Jin Gyou Hong
PMB 586 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Jin Hag Ko
PO Box 505849
Saipan MP 96950

Jin Seok Choi
PO Box 505706
Saipan MP 96950

Jing Li

Jinji Xu
PO Box 506210
Saipan MP 96950

Jiwei Shi
JinLing Dai
PMB 2362 Box 10002
Saipan MP 96950

JM Enterprises
CNMI Consulting Service
PO Box 503589
Saipan MP 96950

Joan L Taitano
PO Box 502404
Saipan MP 96950

Joan Rochelle M Aman
PO Box 500308
Saipan MP 96950

Joaquin T Dowai
PO Box 502174
Saipan MP 96950

Joaquina C Atalig
PO Box 519
Rota MP 96951

Jocelyn A Arada
Arthur I Aarada
PO Box 7633 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Jocelyn B Hornilla
PO Box 503174
Saipan MP 96950

Joel A Samson
PO Box 502372
Saipan MP 96950

Johanne Kristine S Wolf
PO Box 504371
Saipan MP 96950

Johara Valentino Cruz
PO Box 502305
Saipan MP 96950

John B Matsumoto
PO Box 5057
Saipan MP 96950

John Daniel Guerrero
PO Box 501218
Saipan MP 96950

John Diego M Masga
PO Box 503768
Saipan MP 96950

John Emmanuel L Nidea
PO Box 500009
Saipan MP 96950

John Glen Arocena Larin
PO Box 502996
Saipan MP 96950

John Kierwin Mercado Kwan
PMB 98 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

John Koichi Narita
1 20 12 Narita Higashi
Tokyo Japan 1660015

John Koryu Akita
829 Naganuma
Shizuoka City Japan 420-0813

John Martin F Palad
PO Box 10002 PMB 355
Saipan MP 96950

John Paul E Indalecio
PO Box 503468
Saipan MP 96950

Jonah Brian B Hahn
PO Box 50063
Saipan MP 96950

Jonas Marimla Campo
PMB 948 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Jose C Babauta

Jose A Tenorio
PO Box 5367 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Jose Jessie L Tyquiengco
PO Box 505296
Saipan MP 96950

Jose Reyes Bermudes
PO Box 7210 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Josefina Crisanta M Fernandez
PMB 637 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Joseph Brian Delos Santos
PO Box 501278 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Joseph C Cabrera
PO Box 504140
Saipan MP 96950

Joseph D Aldan
PO Box 501291
Saipan MP 96950

Joseph Mathew Pathil
Xueli Zheng
PO Box 503912
Saipan MP 96950

Josephine T Pialur
PO Box 7332 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Jovito Junio Mejia
PO Box 5132 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Joyce Liv P Francisco
PO Box 504682
Saipan MP 96950

Joyce V Ruben
PO Box 501472
Saipan MP 96950

Juan T Guerrero & Associates Inc
PO Box 501218 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Jui Chin Chen
PMB 966 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Julie G Lacanlale

Julie Guitang Fernandez
PO Box 500369
Saipan MP 96950

Jun Vicente M Chong Jr
PO Box 501322
Saipan MP 96950

Jun Wang
PO Box 10012 PMB 218
Saipan MP 96950

Jun Zhuo Bede Li
PO Box 503078
Saipan MP 96950

Jung Ja Kim
PO Box 500789
Saipan MP 96950

Juthathip R Nersten
PMB 341 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Kah Boon Tan
PMB 218 Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Kainoa Shayne Wanket
PO Box 501822
Saipan MP 96950

Kamilakim Santos Loste
PO Box 5079 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Kamrul Kamrul
PO Box 504901
Saipan MP 96950

Katsue Kato
5-16-4-506 Hiroo
Shibuya Tokyo 150-0012

Katsuhide Wada
201 Yochoumachi Sun Heights
12 27 Yochoumachi Shinjuku
Tokyo Japan 162-0055

Kaysha Shevonne A Manalo
PO Box 7355 SVRV
Saipan MP 96950

KC V Tammy
PO BOx 506444
Saipan MP 96950

Kein Wai Tan
PMB 78 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Keith Diane Aquino Ebuen
PO Box 505460
Saipan MP 96950

Ken Bin Chean
PO Box 10003 PMB 819
Saipan MP 96950

Kenji Takamiya
Sonomi Takamiya
1-30-12 Coufugaoka Chou
Tokyo Japan 182-0021

First Hawaiian Bank.
IT ALL STARTS WITH YES

Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax (670) 235-3094 • **Oleai Branch,** Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936

Member FDIC

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Keoni Yarofalir
PO Box 505255
Saipan MP 96950

Kevin Frank P Camacho
PO Box 500676
Saipan MP 96950

Kewei Zhu

Khai Li Loh
PO Box 10003 PMB 197
Saipan MP 96950

Kiki Beijing Saipan Friendship Corp Ltd
DBA Kiki Chinese Restaurant

Kiki Beijing Saipan Friendship Corp Ltd DBA Kiki Import/Export

Kinnycherou Oilouch
PO Box 502600
Saipan MP 96950

Kishor Kumar Das
PO Box 506031
Saipan MP 96950

Kohtaro Sangel Goto
PO Box 501023
Saipan MP 96950

Kok Hiong Pang
Guek Mui Tan
PO Box 10001 PMB 4666
Saipan MP 96950

Kok Seng Ong
PMB 218 Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Kuen Hee Han
PO Box 502134
Saipan MP 96950

Kui F Rogopes
PO Box 503485
Saipan MP 96950

Kumiko Fujita
C/O Igarashi
1 22 14 Wakaba Cho
Tokyo Japan 182-0003

Kuuipo M Kalanui
Paul B Roberto
PO Box 503618
Saipan MP 96950

Kwan Ho Lam
PO Box 10003 PMB 527
Saipan MP 96950

Kyoko Furuya
PMB 705 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Kyounghoon Kim
PMB 41 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Kyunghoe Yu

Laiou Luo
PO Box 503709
Saipan MP 96950

Lance David A Bartolome
PO Box 501731
Saipan MP 96950

Lara Ellaine Tolentino

Larry Manalo Dalupo

Leanie Hernandez Veluz

Lee Chrisotpher Cabrera
PO Box 500123
Saipan MP 96950

Lei Gao
PO Box 503609
Saipan MP 96950

Lexitel Worldwide Telesync Solutions Corporation
PO Box 506073
Saipan MP 96950

Li Huang
PO Box 10003 PMB 212
Saipan MP 96950

Li Xin Yang
PO Box 505005
Saipan MP 96950

Lida Inc
PO Box 500608
Saipan MP 96950

Life Kinabuhi Foundation Inc
PO Box 5079 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Lilia A Baptista
PO Box 504309
Saipan MP 96950

Lilian A Tenorio
Edward S Tenorio
PO Box 501794
Saipan MP 96950

Lingfeng Li
PO Box 501807
Saipan MP 96950

Ling Jin
PO Box 10005 PMB 214
Saipan MP 96950

Lionel Christophe L Bodros
PO Box 10003 PMB 597
Saipan MP 96950

Lito M Maligro
PMB 139 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Lixin Zhu
PO Box 10012 PMB 218
Saipan MP 96950

Liza May Cantilero
PMB 269 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Loknath Sarker
PO Box 503211
Saipan MP 96950

Lorenzo Paterno B Hocog
PO Box 504513
Saipan MP 96950

Lorna Almadin Benavente
PO Box 502391
Saipan MP 96950

Lorna E Torquator
PO Box 501629
Saipan MP 96950

Lovella V Ferrer
PO Box 503498
Saipan MP 96950

Lovely M Lopez
PO Box 504488
Saipan MP 96950

LP Corporation
DBA Eucon Water & Ice Co
PO Box 500087
Saipan MP 96950

Lucky Corp
PO Box 501817
Saipan MP 96950

Luis Borja Cepeda
PO Box 503849
Saipan MP 96950

Ma Analine Santiano Barcelo
PO Box 504280
Saipan MP 96950

Ma Luz Dolotina Chingkoe
PO Box 10001 PMB 614
Saipan MP 96950

Ma Raquel Carino Manalo
PO Box 501494
Saipan MP 96950

Ma Victoria Cortez Timoner
PO Box 10003 PMB 736
Saipan MP 96950

Madoline D Centina
PO Box 501856
Saipan MP 96950

Magdalena Repeki Suel
Preceliniana Repeki Suel
PO Box 5303 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Maggie Respeto Arcega
PO Box 505905
Saipan MP 96950

Mahito Ota
PO Box 10003 PMB 309
Saipan MP 96950

Maksudur Rahman
PO Box 504818
Saipan MP 96950

Malasri Lerdsungnoen
PO Box 565 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Mami Ikeda
PO Box 500047
Saipan MP 96950

Manolo P Romolor
PO Box 504293
Saipan MP 96950

Marciala R Bisanen
PO Box 505091
Saipan MP 96950

Marciana D Igitol
PO Box 5154 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Marco Antonio D Aguda
PMB 478 PPP 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Maria Elena Fitial
PO Box 504287
Saipan MP 96950

Maria Farnsworth Reyes
PO Box 501713
Saipan MP 96950

Maria Isabel T Magpoc
PO Box 500103
Saipan MP 96950

Maria Luisa T Taniegra
PO Box 504974
Saipan MP 96950

Mariah Wyeth Aragon
PMB 269 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Mariana Aldan Deleon Guerrero

Marie Kastel S Tambiga
PO BOx 503698
Saipan MP 96950

Marie Luise L Del Carmen
PMB 9 Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

Marieta P Mora
PO Box 506386
Saipan MP 96950

Mariko Konno
3-3-17 Midoricho Akishima
Tokyo Japan 196-0004

Marilyn E Cosio
PO Box 3608
Saipan MP 96950

Mario Brel
PO Box 7547
Saipan MP 96950

Mark B Espela
PMB 681 PO Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Mark Eivan C Labso
PO BOx 505656
Saipan MP 96950

Marla Ann M Barcinas
PO Box 988
Saipan MP 96950

Marlene Ann C Cruz
PO Box 500053
Saipan MP 96950

Marlon Bernabe Leonardo
Cynthia Punsalan Cortes
PMB 652 PO Box 1000
Saipan MP 96950

Marvin Delos Reyes Tydingco
PO Box 503746
Saipan MP 96950

Mary Ann Molina Caminero
PO Box 504971
Saipan MP 96950

Mary Jane H Canillo
Edwin F Canillo
PO Box 506612
Saipan MP 96950

Mary Josephine C Sablan
PO Box 5727 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Mary Joy P Dimson
PO Box 10003 PMB 489
Saipan MP 96950

Mary Lourdes Lascano Rivera
PO BOx 500169
Saipan MP 96950

Masami Ogura
2378 2 Isshiki Hayama Cho
Kanagawa Japan

Matthew Gabriel Ernest
PO Box 10003 PMB 1370
Saipan MP 96950

Matthew J Yaquinto Jr
PMB 902 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Mayu International Co Ltd
PO Box 501494 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Mayumi Abe
700-8 Nakabata Gotemba
Shizuoka Japan 412-0006

MD Anwar Hossain Rana
PO Box 503696
Saipan MP 96950

MD Awlad Hossain
PO Box 504611
Saipan MP 96950

MD Ishaque
PO Box 503740
Saipan MP 96950

MD Mijanur Rahman Bhuiyan
PO Box 504818
Saipan MP 96950

MD Shazedur Rahman
PO Box 505775
Saipan MP 96950

Mei Yue Xu
PO Box 10003 PMB 735
Saipan MP 96950

Mei Yun Lin
PO Box 10003 PMB 685
Saipan MP 96950

Meizi Jin
PO Box 502957
Saipan MP 96950

Melanie Odiver Mago
PO Box 500165
Saipan MP 96950

Melia B Pua
PO Box 5039
Saipan MP 96950

Meliza Eniego Carranza
PMB 549 PO Box 10002
Saipan MP 96950

Meljune T Mariano
PO Box 505045
Saipan MP 96950

Mercita S Alejandre
PO Box 506475
Saipan MP 96950

Meryalen S Conrad
PO Box 502178
Saipan MP 96950

Mia Noriko T Hirsh
PO Box 500027
Saipan MP 96950

Miao Tang
PMB 281 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Miaoci C Rhea
PO Box 505182
Saipan MP 96950

Michael John E Dy
PO Box 500549
Saipan MP 96950

Michelle Jiyeon Jeon
PO Box 502176
Saipan MP 96950

Mihoko Shibayama
902 1-4-12 Higashi-Mihomb
Tokyo Japan 103-0004

Mika Yamamoto
2-15-9 Sakura-Jousui
Tokyo Japan 156-0045

Milariza Tacalan Mago
PO Box 500165
Saipan MP 96950

Ming Li
PMB 530 PO Box 10002
Saipan MP 96950

Ming Sun
PMB 218 PO Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Mitsuyoshi Iwami
PO Box 10000 PMB 161
Saipan MP 96950

Moojoong Kim

Moon Haeng Lee
PO Box 10000 PMB 500
Saipan MP 96950

Myungsook Song
PO Box 506249
Saipan MP 96950

Naho Usui
PO Box 5087 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Nan Chen

Nan Jiang
PMB 577 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Nannie Sintaro Ezra
PMB 4242 Box 10002
Saipan MP 96950

Naohisa Kaneko
1068 7 Nishi Misono
Hamamatsu Shizuoka 434-003

Naomi Dlg Benjamin
PO Box 502935
Saipan MP 96950

Narcisco Apostol Barbero
Arnehelda Munar Nuesca
PO Box 505183
Saipan MP 96950

Neonina Kupenes
PMB 1202 PO BOx 10003
Saipan MP 96950

New Seoul Inc
OK Tour
PO Box 501694
Saipan MP 96950

Nicky Beltau
PO Box 503134
Saipan MP 96950

Nicolas C Pinaula Jr
PO Box 506686
Saipan MP 96950

Nicolas D Sablan
Mary Margaret Sablan

Nicolas Sabo R Ada
PO Box 506157
Saipan MP 96950

Nicole Marjen Dlg Sablan
PO Box 502237
Saipan MP 96950

Nieves B Camacho
DBA T&N Lawn Care Services
PO Box 502259
Saipan MP 96950

Ning Sun
PO Box 10003 PMB 143
Saipan MP 96950

Noemi G Lacanlale
PMB 228 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Nora I Javier
PO Box 503997
Saipan MP 96950

Norbert M Lumbad
Emma P Lumbad
PO Box 504978
Saipan MP 96950

Norentine N Atinisom
PO Box 5320 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Norma M Marfega
DBA Ed Ventures Tax Pro
PO Box 502356 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Northern Mariana Islands Karatedo Federation
PMB 194 PPP PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Northern Marianas Trades Institute
PO Box 504880
Saipan MP 96950

Nutese
PO Box 5240 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Oiki Wong

Optimize Saipan, LLC
PO Box 10003 PMB 1176
Saipan MP 96950

Oscar S Calage
PO Box 5505 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Pablo Calma Nuqui
PO Box 10002 PMB 1812
Saipan MP 96950

Pacific American Title Insurance & Escrow
888 N Marine Corps Drive
Saipan MP 96950

Pacific Paragon Inc
PO Box 5778 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Patricia T Castro
PO BOx 5119 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Patrick Jake C Antonio
PO Box 7262
Saipan MP 96950

Pei Chun Liao
PMB 710 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Peng Li

Peter LG Pangelinan
PO Box 506156
Saipan MP 96950

Phillip Yoon
Eun Joo Park
PMB 375 Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Ping Fan Mo
PMB 892 Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

Ping Zhao
PO Box 10003 PMB 722
Saipan MP 96950

Plumeria International Corporation Ltd DBA I Love Spa
PMB 588 Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Polaris LLC
PO Box 505749
Saipan MP 96950

Pouru Ota
PO Box 10003 PMB 616
Saipan MP 96950

Priscilla N Albiento
PO Box 502275
Saipan MP 96950

Priscilla T Tenorio
PO Box 501938
Saipan MP 96950

Priscilla Tenorio-Quan

Prospector Pacific Investments
PO Box 500306
Saipan MP 96950

Qianxiu Chen
PMB 218 Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Qiaoling Tan
PO Box 504450
Saipan MP 96950

Quan Chi

Rafiquil Islam
PO Box 505198
Saipan MP 96950

Ramon R Santos
PO Box 501593
Saipan MP 96950

Randy P Seraspe
PMB 650 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Ranjit Chandra Bairagi
PO Box 500002
Saipan MP 96950

Ray Patrick D Camacho
PO Box 501872
Saipan MP 96950

Ray S Lizama
PO Box 506201
Saipan MP 96950

Raymond R Basa
PO Box 501786
Saipan MP 96950

Raymond S Santos
PO Box 8170
Saipan MP 96950

Reiko O Borja
6-27-4 Minaminagareyama
Chiba Japan 270-0163

Remalyn S Deleon Guerrero
PO Box 506517
Saipan MP 96950

Remedios D Castillo
PO Box 504292
Saipan MP 96950

Remilyn Mercurio Ronquillo
PO Box 505994
Saipan MP 96950

Renato Reyes Macatangay
PO Box 502105
Saipan MP 96950

Renmei Hu

Reuben F Valenzuela
PO Box 504128
Saipan MP 96950

Reymundo T Zinampan
Maryline D Zinampan
PO Box 506392
Saipan MP 96950

Rheanie Mae D Valle
PO Box 500029
Saipan MP 96950

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Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax (670) 235-3094 • **Oleai Branch,** Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936

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Rhita Lea R Belo
PO Box 500369
Saipan MP 96950

Ricardo Dlg Villagomez
PO Box 506573
Saipan MP 96950

Ricardo G Del Rosario
PO Box 7851 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Richard B Seman
DBA Marianas Fishing Magazine
PO Box 500503
Saipan MP 96950

Rika Yamaoka

Robert E Fabiala
PO Box 10003 PMB 779
Saipan MP 96950

Robert Y Villagomez
PO Box 502889
Saipan MP 96950

Rodinah Saudia F Ramos
PO Box 505803
Saipan MP 96950

Rodney B Camacho
Aurea B Camacho
PO Box 504761
Saipan MP 96950

Rodney Deleon Guerrero
PO Box 501332
Saipan MP 96950

Roger Igisomar

Roland Auer
PO Box 10002 PMB 573
Saipan MP 96950

Roland T Sanchez
PO Box 504357
Saipan MP 96950

Rolando A Atienza
PO Box 504686
Saipan MP 96950

Rolando S Tengco
PMB 246 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Rolland Bustamante Libayan
PO Box 505050
Saipan MP 96950s

Roman A Cabrera III
PO Box 506336
Saipan MP 96950

Romavilla Corporation DBA Wires
PO Box 7610 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Rommel E Yanto
PO Box 506139 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Romulo D De Jesus
PO Box 500369
Saipan MP 96950

Romulus P De Leon
PMB 757 Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Rongshen Zhao

Rosemarie A Sanchez
PO Box 502903
Saipan MP 96950

Rosinee Tabuada Rosales
PO Box 10003 PMB 454
Saipan MP 96950

Rosanna S Dela Vega
PO Box 7807 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Rosario J Clemente
PO Box 506108
Saipan MP 96950

Rosemarie Estrella S Penaroyo
PO Box 505932
Saipan MP 96950

Rowena T Noble
PO Box 506642
Saipan MP 96950

Ru Pan
PO Box 10003 PMB 793
Saipan MP 96950

Rui Hua Theresa Xu Zheng
PO Box 504255
Saipan MP 96950

Rulesh Maharjan
PO Box 504569
Saipan MP 96950

Ruth I Deus
PO Box 500061
Saipan MP 96950

Ruth S Perito
PO Box 500808
Saipan MP 96950

Ryan Delicano Hampac
PO Box 10003 PMB 816
Saipan MP 96950

STR Co Ltd
PO Box 501292
Saipan MP 96950

Sahn A Abraham
PO Box 506412
Saipan MP 96950

Sai Jiang
PO Box 504572
Saipan MP 96950

Saipan Building And Fixing Computer
Users Group (SBFCUG)
PO Box 5525 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Saipan Regional Investment Center, LLC
PO Box 500209
Saipan MP 96950

Saipan Wave Corporation
PMB 1474 Box 10002
Saipan MP 96950

Saipan Zhon Min Corporation
Zhong Min General Construction
PMB 1107 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Samson A Fernandez
PO Box 504080
Saipan MP 96950

Sanny Somog Uy Agustin
PO Box 5599 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Sarah G Gascon
PO Box 502846 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Sarah Marie Schmid
PMB 222 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Sena Lee
PO Box 7922 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Shane F Tiangson
PO Box 10000 PMB 697
Saipan MP 96950

Shanshu Li
PO Box 506439
Saipan MP 96950

Shaocheng Hu
PO Box 10003 PMB 1112
Saipan MP 96950

Shenyong Liu

Sherman C Santos
PO Box 502662 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Sherman William
PO Box 505438
Saipan MP 96950

Shi Jun Cheng

Shikui Lu

Shilin Cao
PO Box 505001
Saipan MP 96950

Shinichi Matsumoto
Terumi Matsumoto
402-8 Kamihemi Koga City
Ibaraki Japan 306-0234

Shiori Onoue
PO Box 5236 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Shirliy Li Camacho
PMB 579 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Shivji Sasidharan
PO Box 10003 PMB 91
Saipan MP 96950

Shuming Chen

Shunxi Guo

Si Young Heo
PO Box 505629
Saipan MP 96950

Sidney G Stephanson
PO Box 5778 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Silvia R Preza
PO Box 501063
Saipan MP 96950

Siu Investment LLC
PO Box 502785
Saipan MP 96950

Siu Lin Tan
PO Box 501280
Saipan MP 96950

Sonia Marie A Camacho
PO Box 500847
Saipan MP 96950

Song and Jang Corporation
DBA Bodyworks Massage
PMB 303 Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Sony Gatmaitan Natividad
PO Box 501792
Saipan MP 96950

Soo Youn Ahn
PO Box 502429
Saipan MP 96950

Soon Ming Lucas Wong

Stephanie Torio Calub
PO Box 504743
Saipan MP 96950

Sulyman
PO Box 503597
Saipan MP 96950

Sun Young Kang
PO Box 10001 PMB 628
Saipan MP 96950

Supeng Xue

Susie Jane Tighe
PO Box 503252
Saipan MP 96950

Suwei Shan
PMB 1164 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Suxin Guo Kaainoa
PO Box 501152
Saipan MP 96950

Sylvestria Nugam
PO Box 502302
Saipan, MP 96950

Tai Hong Chen
PO Box 502664
Saipan MP 96950

Takashi Hirata
PO Box 10003 PMB 231
Saipan MP 96950

Tatiana Alexeeva Babauta
PO Box 503058
Saipan MP 96950

Teddy Boy Lian Chata
PO Box 10002 PMB 557
Saipan MP 96950

Teng Dong

Teresita B Santos
PMB 575 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Teresita S Manibusan
PO Box 500542
Saipan MP 96950

Terue Ukita
PO Box 501669
Saipan MP 96950

Tetsuya Matsunaga
4-42-6622 Hoshigamine
Kagoshima Japan 891-0102

The Family Wellness Organization
Hinemlo Familia
PO Box 505084
Saipan MP 96950

The Nepalese Community of Saipan
PO Box 505411
Saipan MP 96950

Theresa Diaz Taylor Worswick
PO Box 506477
Saipan MP 96950

Thomas Wang
PO Box 504489
Saipan MP 96950

Timang N Aguon
PO Box 7536 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Tina T Tenorio
PO Box 500023
Saipan MP 96950

Ting Han Tsai

Ting Jian Tang
PO Box 502592
Saipan MP 96950

Ting Xu
PO Box 10003 PMB 289
Saipan MP 96950

Tomoko I Yamagishi
PMB 786 PPP Box 1000
Saipan MP 96950

Top Sheng Investment LLC
DBA Pak Pak Bar and Grill
PO Box 505265
Saipan MP 96950

Toyomi Oshima
2 32 13 405 Honcho Kichi
Tokyo Japan 180-004

Trifon Orteza Casimong
PO Box 8171 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Trinity Ann Camacho Cruz
PO Box 500053
Saipan MP 96950

Trinity International Inc
Greenhills Subdivision
PMB 451 PPP PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Tsuyoshi Naito
3-3-1-301 Irifune Chuo-ku
Tokyo Japan 104-0042

Ui Yeob Kim

Unipower Worldwide Corporation
PMB 936 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Valerie S Camacho
William T Camacho
PO Box 7998 SVRB
Saipan MP 96950

Van Mui Bui
PMB 1122 PO Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

Vanessa Mettao Olopai
PO Box 502801
Saipan MP 96950

Venus Zietzke
Courtney L Zietzke
PMB 929 PO Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

Vialipro Corp
PO Box 505478
Saipan MP 96950

Vicente S Salas
PO Box 501641 CK
Saipan MP 96950

Vilma L Escarlan
Reynaldo B Escarlan
PO Box 505389
Saipan MP 96950

Victor R Formales
PO Box 10003 PMB 170
Saipan MP 96950

Victor S Muna
PO Box 5829 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

Victoria P Ancheta
PO Box 8198
Saipan MP 96950

Virgilio De Leon Mandapat
PMB 650 Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Virgilio Flores Mateo
Arlene G Mateo
PO Box 504007
Saipan MP 96950

Virginia T Lacsina
PO Box 501029
Saipan MP 96950

Wasana Gregory
PMB 419 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Wei Dong Guo
PO Box 10000 PMB 655
Saipan MP 96950

Wenbin Kong
PO Box 503547
Saipan MP 96950

Wendie Licayu Calling
PO Box 10003 PMB 239
Saipan MP 96950

Wenqi Li

Wenxiang Dong

Wildon Mart D Abad
PMB 473 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Wilgene Christopher T Lieto II
PO Box 5600 CHRB
Saipan MP 96950

William M Fitzgerald
PO Box 500909
Saipan MP 96950

Wyman Rechucher
Yuki W Rechucher
PO Box 5437
Saipan MP 96950

Xiao Xiao
PO Box 10003 PMB 814
Saipan MP 96950

Xiaofang Li
PO Box 503133
Saipan MP 96950

Xiaojie Wang
PMB 725 Box 10000 Garapan
Saipan MP 96950

Xiaoping Tang

Xiaoshuai Xue

Xiaoyan Wang
PMB 218 Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Xie Nan
PO Box 501640
Saipan MP 96950

Xijun Zhang

Xingyi Xu
PO Box 10003 PMB 96
Saipan MP 96950

Xinzhong Ji
PO Box 10003 PMB 1164
Saipan MP 96950

Xishan Wang

Xiuyun Chen
PO Box 503302
Saipan MP 96950

Xuemei Wu
PO Box 10005 PMB 63
Saipan MP 96950

Xuedong Jin

Xuelin Zhang
PMB 1100 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Xulin's American Corporation
Happy Market
PMB 538 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Yahua Jiang
PMB 218 PO Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Yan Zhao

Yanbin Chen
PO Box 10003 PMB 722
Saipan MP 96950

Yanbin Zhang
PO Box 10000 PMB 710
Saipan MP 96950

Yanhua Hao
PMB 738 Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Yi Hsin Wang
PO Box 10003 PMB 148
Saipan MP 96950

Yi Li
PO Box 504917
Saipan MP 96950

Yi Zhang

Yinsheng Ma
PMB 218 PO Box 10012
Saipan MP 96950

Yong Cao
PO Box 10003 PMB 85
Saipan MP 96950

Yong Suk Chang
PO Box 506371
Saipan MP 96950

Yong Zhang

Yongjing Wu
PMB 532 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Yongwang Jia

You Ming Wei
PO Box 10003 PMB 573
Saipan MP 96950

Young In Kim
PO Box 503751
Saipan MP 96950

Youngmi Kim
PO Box 500950
Saipan MP 96950

Young Min Choi
PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Yu Hong Li
PO Box 504622
Saipan MP 96950

Yu Hsuan Chien
PMB 709 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Yuebin Liu
PO Box 504131
Saipan MP 96950

Yueling Cai
PO Box 10003 PMB 255
Saipan MP 96950

Yueyang International Corporation
Yueyang Tour Agent
PMB 87 Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Yujiang Wang

Yujie Cui
PO Box 10003 PMB 308
Saipan MP 96950

Yukari Suzuki
PO Box 500009
Saipan MP 96950

Yulee Hwang

Yun Suk Kwon Na
PO Box 506691
Saipan MP 96950

Yung Chen Yin
PO Box 10003 PMB 796
Saipan MP 96950

Yunhe Liu

Zaf Anthony P Florentino
PMB 1168 PO Box 10001
Saipan MP 96950

Zenaida Castro Javier
PO Box 502726
Saipan MP 96950

Zengliang Wang
PO Box 10003 PMB 706
Saipan MP 96950

Zhanwen Ren
PO Box 501968
Saipan MP 96950

Zhe Xian Ichihara
PO Box 504278
Saipan MP 96950

Zhechu Zhu
PO Box 10003 PMB 143
Saipan MP 96950

Zhen Yu Y Pangelinan
PO Box 504057
Saipan MP 96950

Zhi Chen
Xin Yuan Li
PO Box 10005 PMB 63
Saipan MP 96950

Zhi Hui Yun Lian Hotel Group Company Inc
PMB 358 PO Box 10000
Saipan MP 96950

Zhi Yuan Li
PO Box 10002 PMB 1502
Saipan MP 96950

Zhihong Xu
PMB 531 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Zhixian Li
PO Box 505799
Saipan MP 96950

Zhongli Pang

Zhongping Yu
PO Box 505005
Saipan MP 96950

Zhuonli Lin

Zi Zou
PMB 199 PO Box 10003
Saipan MP 96950

Zoilo H Galvez
PMB 737 PO Box 10005
Saipan MP 96950

First Hawaiian Bank.
IT ALL STARTS WITH YES

Gualo Rai Branch, Gualo Rai Commercial Center, Middle Road • Tel: (670) 235-3090 Fax (670) 235-3094 • **Oleai Branch,** Oleai Center, Beach Road Chalan Laulau • Tel: (670) 234-6559 Fax: (670) 236-8936

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

OH GOOD, ANOTHER IMMIGRANT BABY. JUST GRAB IT AND SEND IT TO A DETENTION CENTER
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MIKE PETERS

EDITORIAL

No, Mr. President, you can't end due process for unauthorized immigrants

President Donald Trump's repeated calls this week to do away with due process for unauthorized immigrants at the border — a group he decried as invaders — should be summarily rejected by anyone who believes America is a nation of laws.

It still is, right? No one's invoked martial law?

That prospect isn't as unfathomable as it should be when the president equates immigrants, some of whom are asylum seekers or children, to marauders or attacks some of the plainest language in the U.S. Constitution. Immigration is and always will be a complex issue, especially with a president intent on using it as a political wedge ahead of midterm elections that could shape both his presidency and the course of the nation. But some things should be sacrosanct, like the Fifth Amendment, which holds that "No person shall … be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of the law."

Yet on Sunday, leaving no doubt where he stands on the issue, Trump tweeted, "We cannot allow all of these people to invade our Country. When somebody comes in, we must immediately, with no Judges or Court Cases, bring them back from where they came. Our system is a mockery to good immigration policy and Law and Order." And on Monday, the president further explained his thinking, such as it is, tweeting, "Hiring many thousands of judges, and going through a long and complicated legal process, is not the way to go — will always be disfunctional. People must simply be stopped at the Border and told they cannot come into the U.S. illegally. Children brought back to their country … … "

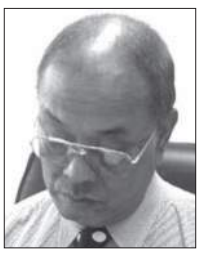
Meanwhile, Congress is hashing out an immigration bill to address the Trump administration's much-maligned family separation policy, in talks led by Democratic Sens. Dianne Feinstein of California and Dick Durbin of Illinois and Republican Sens. Ted Cruz of Texas and Thom Tillis of North Carolina. Perhaps they will prioritize cases of families with children or add hundreds, not thousands, of new immigration judges. There are only 334 immigration judges in the Justice Department now, with 150 budgeted vacancies and 70,000-plus cases pending in U.S. immigration courts as of May. That's a problem. The Justice Department's case completion standard for immigration judges is 700 a year.

Why so high? The U.S. Supreme Court has upheld that due process applies to all people since the 1800s. "Even aliens," the court wrote in 1896.

In 1982, the court further explained a century of its own

See MR. PRESIDENT on Next Page

Politics of disintegration



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Interesting the large number of candidates running independently this election year. It seems a tale that many have bolted the old party system.

Some are celebrating like everyday is a holiday others dread it like Halloween while still others think it's a huge festive wake!

While the GOP falls apart into three factious groups the Democrats-independent has formally met in unity, recently. Democrats have also been in disarray since 1982 but it has since rebuilt its Ship of Hope.

We're anxious to see how the tandems from both sides of the aisle fair as they hit the campaign trail. Intriguing the varied reaction of hope and despair upon mentioning the BS or TP tandems.

Incumbent Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has to defend his record whatever that may be. Being the incumbent makes him a wide-open target but he still has a lot of resources at his disposal.

Babauta also has significant issues at the ready all coming from the other side of the street. All he needs to do is pull them from Torres' hands to pound it home into fine grain of sand.

Babauta only needs to focus on the 80-percent salary increase Republicans gave themselves and humongous increases for other higher up positions in government.

They did it while skipping more than 14,000 employees literally struggling in poverty income level and below. Is padding their wallets their single most vital trophy of achievement? Talk about irreversible self-inflicted devastation!

Furthermore, a strong member of the GOP board of directors (Felicidad Ogumoro) is rumored to have resigned. Moreover, the GOP has also abolished the central committee. Hmmm! These aren't wonderful signs of reinforcing unity!

Apparently the issue of "income inequality" isn't a concern for Raffy, Arnold, and servile Republican legislators. It's an all out effort to pad their wallets!

Land deal: Sen. Arnold Palacios is in a bind for his lease of public land that he apparently rented to another. With such a deal how could he be in arrears of some $1 million? If he's making over $4,000 per month renting space to another in his warehouse, how could he miss paying his dues to DPL?

Furthermore, where did DPL get its authority to forgive debts? Isn't this strictly a legislative authority? It could work on reduction of monthly payments but never what's owed. Is this an issue DPL could explain citing authority that grants it the right to reduce public debts?

Finally, there are two long line-fishing vessels stuck on the reef that have yet to be removed. Could this be done forthwith before they turn into permanent monument at the entrance of the harbor? Two monstrous trash endangering our fragile reef and habitat. Anybody home?

Propaganda: Appalling how *Time Magazine* manufactured a front cover of a young girl standing in front of Trump as though begging for help. Pure propaganda!

It suffered national humiliation when the "father of the Honduran girl who became the face of the family separation crisis has revealed that … his wife and daughter were never separated by border control agents and remain together." Apparently, Time had to deal with an elephant-size diarrhea!

ICE also uncovered schemes where adult vagabonds follow lost kids as though their own just to enter the country, illegally. Unbelievably, many had to walk hundreds of miles in 103-degrees heat going days without food. Some are women raped and murdered without reaching their destination. How sad the faux concern for their safety!

Shameless how hypocritical discussions have focused on everything politically damaging against Trump ignoring it's the separated kids who needed the help reuniting with their parents. Thanks that Trump didn't blink and did something positive helping over 500 children as of this writing.

As Christians, we sympathize with victims who've sacrificed everything for freedom. But I'm equally cautious how this isn't

See POLITICS on Next Page

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What shall we do about it?

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

If you'd like something interesting to ponder this weekend, here's a quote about problem solving that comes from the philosopher Alan Watts:

"The question 'What shall we do about it?' is only asked by those who do not understand the problem. If a problem can be solved at all, to understand it and to know what to do about it are the same thing."

That's a mighty counterintuitive take on things, which is part of its charm. After all, the reflexive outlook is that solutions are hammers that we use to smash problems; lavishing too much attention on the problem itself seems like fraternizing with the enemy.

That's a conceptual trap that's easy to fall into.

I'll admit that it might be a stretch to actually like a problem, but I think that having a reflexive hostility to everything we call a problem can set us up for even bigger woes. That's a common situation. As a result, there's a lot of unnecessary hostility in the world.

I like to keep this quote from Watts in mind for a couple of reasons. One reason is that I don't want to wind up considering every circumstance I encounter as a problem to be solved.

After all, many circumstances are just that, circumstances, and they don't all demand that I have some sort of reaction to them. If a problem really isn't a problem, then there's no need to worry about a solution.

One way I cultivated this outlook was by working on the high seas on fishing vessels. Actually, I didn't cultivate the outlook, the outlook cultivated me. I had no control over a ship's operational realm; no idea where I'd be in one, two, three, or six months; and no idea what was going on in the outside world.

So I just learned to accept each day on its own merits. This was alien to the goal-oriented, make-the-most-of-your-time, always-be-planning, always-update-your-forecasts, always-be-optimizing conditioning of my earlier days.

But, of course, some situations do require problem solving. This brings me to the second reason I like the quote. It reminds me to really think about a problem in terms of its own nature. Otherwise, I might just steamroller over it by imposing my own agenda from the outset.

Fortunately, this is one case where the lecture hall held some real-world wisdom. In school, knowing how to set up a problem was more important than penciling-out the actual solution. Getting the right equations laid out was probably 80 percent of the battle.

As for solutions, well, many were merely rote calculations. They can save time and effort, but they can be real booby traps if they're applied to the wrong types of problems. In fact, having the right solution to the wrong problem is a common way of messing things up.

One common problem I've seen in the business world is the desire to influence what customers are going to do without taking sufficient account of what customers actually want to do. The latter realm, which demands getting improved insights into the customer's preferences, is very difficult. One reason it's so difficult is that it requires being able to ignore your own preferences in order to consider somebody else's preferences.

It's far easier, and, in some realms, far more common, to simply try to manipulate the customer.

We've all been on the receiving end of that stuff: marketing gimmicks, deceptive pricing or "discount" schemes, callous reductions in service quality, stealthy reductions in product quality. When these are "solutions" to the problem, it's likely that the problem itself should have been defined more carefully.

Given that situation, although I don't think managers usually set out to take the low road, it's easy to wind up there anyway if they're expected to show some action as a solution to a poorly-defined "problem." Once this spiral starts, it's self-reinforcing.

In those cases, any manager, or, for that matter, any executive, who suggests circling around and re-examining the problem itself will wind up on the streets right away, free to pursue, as they say, "other opportunities."

Anyway, those are a few examples of what comes to mind when the question "What shall we do about it?" comes up.

When did ICE go rogue?

By MARY SANCHEZ
The Kansas City Star

Mary Sanchez is an opinion-page columnist for The Kansas City Star*. Readers may write to her at: Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64108-1413, or via email at msanchez@kcstar.com.*

Do tell, Mr. ICE agent, what made you go rogue the other morning in Kansas City?

Because something was certainly up when you allegedly shoved an immigration attorney so hard that she fell to the cement, twisting an ankle and cracking a bone in her foot.

Was it that the pregnant Honduran woman you were set to deport had already caused a hassle, her plight drawing New Jersey Sen. Cory Booker to her jail cell in hopes of securing the medication she needed to alleviate discomfort relating to her pregnancy?

> *Kenia Bautista-Mayorga claims she was fleeing an abusive husband, a Honduran police officer, and living in fear for herself, her son and her unborn baby, but U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions had already undercut her ability to gain legal standing when he decreed that domestic violence is no longer a rationale for asylum.*

Was it seeing the film crew (making a documentary for Netflix) in the Immigration and Customs Enforcement parking lot, ready to capture the moment when the woman's 3-year-old son was handed over so they could both be deported together? Or was it just that it was 3:30 a.m. and you expected the early hour to conceal the shameful handoff from public scrutiny? Or, maybe you just hadn't consumed enough coffee to be civilized.

Something got your goat.

Maybe it was just that under the current administration respect for due process, for the constitutionally protected rights of undocumented immigrants, is under siege.

To be charitable, maybe you just wanted to do your job. You might even prefer the pre-Trump days when there was a bit more sanity and clarity to how ICE carried out its duties. Plenty of good people exist in dysfunctional workplaces.

And immigration proceedings in the U.S. certainly qualify as a chaotic, churning mess right now. But you did your job. Kenia Bautista-Mayorga was deported, though her luggage was not.

Imagine being six months pregnant, on an international flight with a toddler, without a change of clothes. The injured attorney, Andrea Martinez, had to press to find out which Honduran airport her client would arrive at.

Still, people want to know. Why did ICE shove the little boy's stepfather through the doorway, locking it as the attorney was shoved to the ground? That man is now slotted for deportation too.

Officially, ICE is still reviewing the incident. The video of Martinez's assault has since gone viral.

But most see this incident for what it is, an encapsulation of the complete disregard the Trump administration holds for immigrants and their legal rights.

Kenia Bautista-Mayorga claims she was fleeing an abusive husband, a Honduran police officer, and living in fear for herself, her son and her unborn baby, but U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions had already undercut her ability to gain legal standing when he decreed that domestic violence is no longer a rationale for asylum.

This mother and her children represent only one family whose chances to legally rectify their immigration status was short-circuited. Incidents like this happen every day in the U.S., with increasing frequency.

It's ironic, given the outrage about separating migrant children from their parents that this family's reunion was only for the purpose of forming mother and child into a deportable unit. This is not the system that will meet the nation's demands for national security. Chaos, undercutting people's rights, never will.

It could be that this one agent was irked that dozens of people, many of them clergy, showed up outside his office and stood in the rain singing songs of peace and love. They were there to observe.

Good for those kind and patient souls.

More of them are organizing every day. In fact, some of them will be stoked for civil disobedience by watching video of this incident in Kansas City.

They will show up and bear witness to the actions at our southern border, in front of immigration courts and at the county jails that make money holding detained immigrants. The pressure will continue to mount.

The arduous river the U.S. will have to cross to re-establish itself as a fair and just nation, today, appears too wide for most of us. But momentum is building. We'll get there.

MR. PRESIDENT

From Page 14

thinking, writing, "Aliens, even aliens whose presence in this country is unlawful, have long been recognized as 'persons' guaranteed due process of law by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments."

In USA Today, Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU Immigrants' Rights Project, agreed with other activists and scholars that Trump's rash idea was illegal and unconstitutional. "Any official who has sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution and laws should disavow it unequivocally," Jadwat said.

Maybe instead of focusing on crowd size after his inauguration, the president should have given far more thought to his oath of office, when he swore to "the best" of his ability to "preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." His oath was only 38 words — so few they'd fit in a tweet.

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POLITICS

From Page 14

a scheme from southern dictators and drug cartel bosses to derail and compromise the strength of the republic.

Preliminarily, it would cost U.S. taxpayers over $26 billion per year to take care of these separated kids. What about our own kids living in poverty of more than 42 million? Isn't it true that charity begins at home?

Obviously, the main or "lamestream" media is part of the scheme to demonize Trump while ignoring professional journalistic ethics. Is Trump the issue or isn't it the separated children?

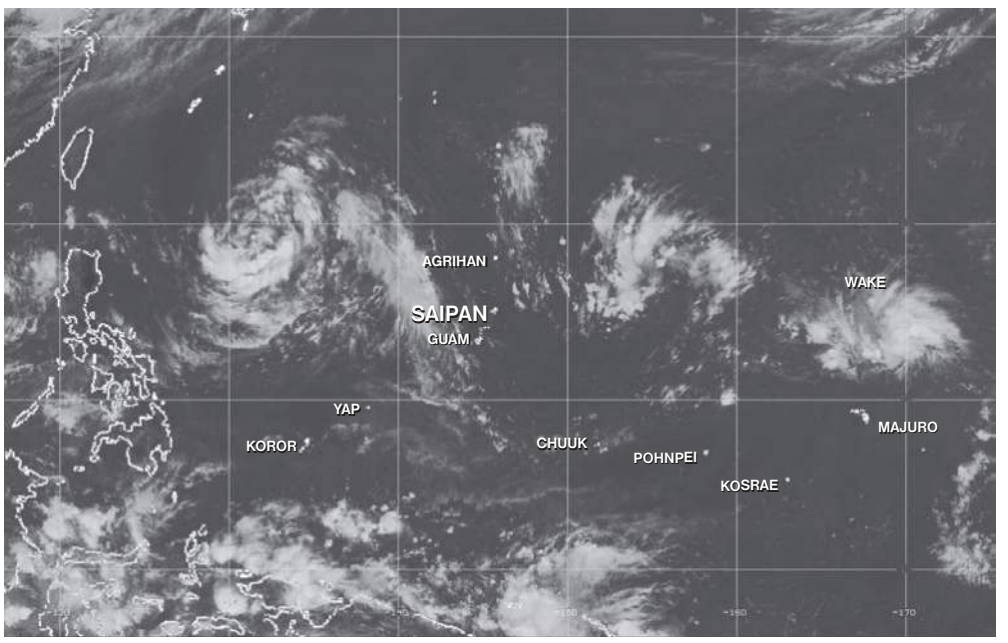
Trump wasn't hurling rhetorical blanks. He did what he had to do. Even with this liberals and their pliant "lamestream" media still find it unacceptable. So if Trump does it it's wrong but when Obama started the mess it's okay? Hypocrisy?

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:48 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A partly to mostly cloudy sky was evident across the Marianas early this morning. A few lingering showers were evident on satellite and radar imagery, associated with the disturbance that brought the showers on Tuesday. THis disturbance has moved westward. Satellite imagery also shows showers and thunderstorms with an upper level low well to the east of the Marianas. Combined seas are between 2 and 4 feet at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorm	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorm	84° / 76°
Yap	Thunderstorm	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorm	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorm	86° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorm	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	57° / 43°
Beijing	Sunny	100° / 73°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 74°
London	Sunny	76° / 63°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	79° / 62°
Manila	Thunderstorm	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	54° / 41°
Miami	Thunderstorm	85° / 79°
New York	Mostly Sunny	91° / 73°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	84° / 75°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	84° / 63°
Busan	Thunderstorm	73° / 72°
Rome	Sunny	86° / 64°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	92° / 74°
San Francisco	Sunny	67° / 56°
Seoul	Thunderstorm	79° / 70°
Tokyo	Windy	87° / 79°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	92° / 73°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:40 AM	LOW TIDE	1.19
7:18 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.81
2:47 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.28
9:48 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.84

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:26 AM	7:39 PM
Saturday	-	7:15 AM	8:25 PM
Sunday	-	8:04 AM	9:09 PM
Monday	-	8:53 AM	9:51 PM
Tuesday	-	9:42 AM	10:31 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	Daily
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	5:40am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:00pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	10:00pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	1:50am	5:15am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA117	7:00am	7:45am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	Daily
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:25am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:55pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

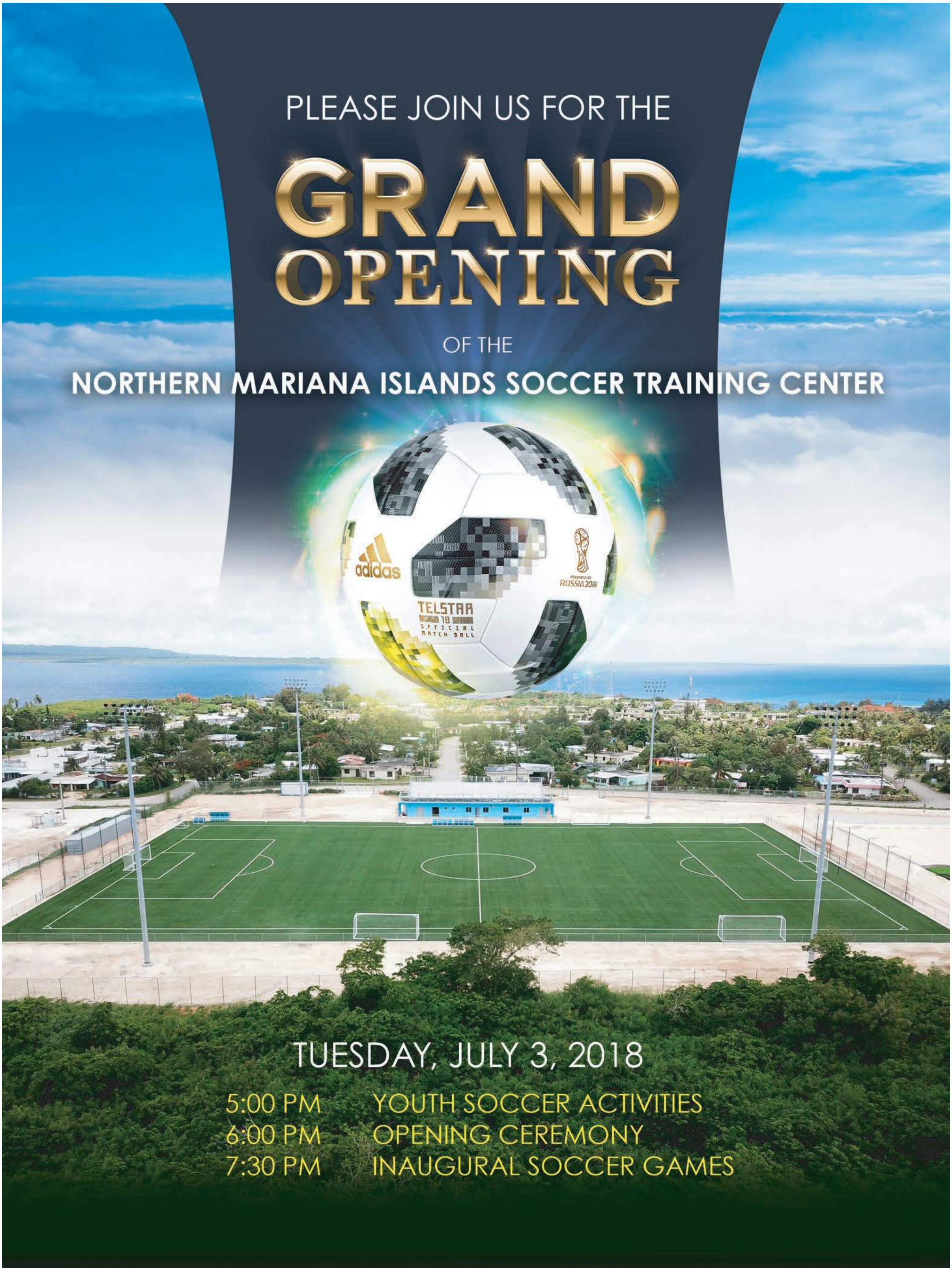
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily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OFFICIAL MATCH BALL
TUESDAY, JULY 3, 2018
5:00 PM YOUTH SOCCER ACTIVITIES
6:00 PM OPENING CEREMONY
7:30 PM INAUGURAL SOCCER GAMES

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) presents Triple J Enterprises chair and CEO Robert H. Jones with a Congressional Record during a presentation last May 18.

Kilili honors Jones family with Congressional Record

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (Ind-MP) presented Robert H. Jones, chairman and CEO of Triple J Enterprises, Inc., with a Congressional Record last May 18 in recognition of the Jones family's remarkable contributions to the growth and development of the CNMI and the Western Pacific through business venture and philanthropical efforts.

"I wanted to recognize the contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Jones and their family, to the Marianas and the region," said Sablan.

As residents on Guam and Saipan for over 60 years, the Jones family continues to support the communities that surround them. In Guam, the Jones family and Triple J partner with the American Cancer Society Guam Chapter, work alongside the American Red Cross and the Make-a-Wish Foundation Guam/CNMI Chapter on Saipan, as well as support youth sports and development organizations on all islands.

Published by the United States Government Publishing Office, the Congressional Record and its extension of remarks makes note the tribute to the Jones Family, Triple J Enterprises.

Born in North Carolina, Robert Jones moved to the island of Guam in 1957 to work for Jones & Guerrero, Inc., a company his older brother Kenneth started. Jones worked alongside Ken for the next 24 years and eventually held the position of executive vice president and chief operating officer of the company.

In 1984, Jones found his opportunity and struck out on his own. He bought a Subaru franchise from Ken, established Triple J Enterprises, in Guam and then ventured out to the island of Saipan in the Northern Marianas. There he founded Triple J Motors, a reference to the Jones' three children—Julie, Jeffrey, and Jay.

From the inception, it was a family business. Jones' wife, Margaret, purchased inventory, handled advertising, public relations, and, was the company treasurer. Her sister, Georgia J. Stafford, also lent a hand when needed and their children cleaned cars and worked in the parts and service departments as well.

At first, Triple J distributed Subaru automobiles, Hino heavy trucks and buses, and Bluebird school buses. As business increased, they added other establish car companies to their portfolio: Ford, Mazda, Lincoln, Hyundai, Isuzu, Suzuki, Volvo, Honda, Acura, Kia and Mitsubishi brands. Upon the return of their children from college the Triple J family business began to expand beyond automobile sales and extend beyond the Northern Mariana Island into the Western Pacific.

In 1987, Triple J Enterprises initiated the wholesale foods and grocery retail on the island of Ebeye in the Marshall Islands. Years later, with more experience, Triple J Enterprises, grew into the island of Majuro nearby where the company today continues to operate similar businesses. Later in 1998 and in alignment with Jones' visionary persona, Triple J Enterprises, magnified its reach into the islands of Palau with wholesale business foods, a bakery, convenience store, and a Shell service station.

Triple J further diversified

Continued on Next Page

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Birthday Fundraiser
Committee To Re-Elect David M. Apatang for Mayor – 2018
"SI DAVE AGAIN"
Live Entertainment & Raffle Prizes
When: Saturday, July 14, 2018
Venue: PIC – The Magellan
Time: 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
For tickets, please call Oscar M. Babauta @ 287-0288 or Bobbie Yamada @ 989-1957
Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase & Ghilisow for your Support!
Donation: $50
Paid by the Committee to Re-Elect David M. Apatang; Terry B. Camacho – Treasurer

into the restaurant business beginning in the mid-1990s with the purchase of an Outback Steakhouse franchise in Guam and, soon after Tony Roma's, Capricciosa, Bubba Gump Shrimp Company, and Great Harvest Bakery franchises on Saipan. Currently, a Red Lobster franchise restaurant is now under development in Guam—a new addition to the portfolio in the next year.

In 1994, Triple J had a hand in negotiating the arrival of K-Mart in Guam. The store on the island, bucking a national trend of closures, remains one of the most successful K-Marts nationwide to this day

Into the new millennium, Triple J had grown to be the "fourth largest business in Micronesia" ranked by the *Guam Business Magazine* in 2005. The Guam Chamber of Commerce named them Business Laureate of the Year and inducted Triple J into the Guam Business Hall of Fame—the youngest corporation to receive the honor.

And they just kept growing. Triple J acquired Hertz Rent-a-Car rights and became exclusive distributor in all of Micronesia for Solahart—an Australian solar water heater company.

Capitalizing on another opportunity, Triple J developed a first-of-its-kind affordable housing development on Saipan, subsidized by the U.S. Treasury's Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program. Sandy Beach Homes, a $27-million, 60-unit project, was completed in late 2011; and, a second, affordable housing project, Saipan Comfort Homes, quickly followed with an additional 40 units.

Understanding the greater need for sustainable economic growth in the Mariana Islands, Jones set out for improvement. Working with the Washington Pacific Economic Development Group he established the Marianas EB-5 Regional Center, which offers foreign investors U.S. immigrant status in return for funding business developments in the Mariana Islands.

The larger concern for the welfare of the island community arose when the Marianas was hit by Typhoon Soudelor in 2015. Typhoon Soudelor was the third most intense tropical cyclone worldwide that year after Hurricane Patricia and Cyclone Pam with sustained winds exceeding 100 miles per hour. In the wake of devastation, home destruction and lack of infrastructure for over a month, Jones donated thousands of dollars in food to help the Salvation Army set up a hot meals program in the village of Kagman, Saipan—one of the shattered villages on island. A year later, the Rotary Club of Saipan awarded Jones its Citizen of the Year award of 2016 for his selflessness and support to the when the community was in dire need

Sharing in the value of philanthropy, the Jones family and Triple J make effort to enhance the quality of life of others in need. In Guam, Triple J partners with the American Cancer Society Guam Chapter annually to support their signature funding event, Relay for Life, raising as much as $40,000 in one year alone. In the Northern Mariana Island, the company regularly contributes to the Red Cross Walk-a-Thon, the Marianas March Against Cancer, Make-A-Wish Foundation-Guam, CNMI Chapter, and numerous other charitable programs raising money for relief efforts and cancer research. Triple J Motors has also been the official car sponsor of the Miss Marianas Pageant and the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

"Customers first" is the simplistic mission statement of Triple J Enterprises, and yet, it holds a more complex meaning displayed the actions and attitude behind their successes. That people-centric point of view serves as a model to other businesses in the communities they belong to.

Throughout these years of dynamic growth, the importance of family remains central to the success of Triple J. Son Jeffery is the president and chief operating officer of the company. Son Jay is senior vice president with a focus on automotive operations. And, while daughter Julie spends much of her time in a professional counseling practice, her husband, Dan Murrell, serves as senior vice president in charge of real estate, food, and restaurant operations. Mother Margaret remains company treasurer. Robert Jones is chairman and CEO. Growing into the third generation, five of their eleven grandchildren are employed in the family business. Today, the Triple J group employs over 900 employees across the Micronesia region, many of whom have been with the business for 20 plus years. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: 235-5131

WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2017 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Rota, Saipan, and Tinian. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2017 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Rota, go to http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf

For Saipan, go to http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf

For Tinian, go to http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

RA AYOORA REPOODIL AMMWELIL SCHAAL

Repoodil yóómw 2017 CUC Ammwelil Schaal aa yoor online! Ráágh yeel, ai ayoora repoodngáli falúw kka: Luuta, Seipél, me Tchiliyól. E lo llól repood kkal arongorong ikka e impotanti reel milikka e toowow me ammwelil schaal iye ów ghal úlúmi.

Emmwel ubwe suughi website ikka e amwirimwiritiw ubwe amwuri meta kka e nngaw iye e lo llól yóómw schaal llól ráághil 2017 me ubwe metaff reel schaal iye ughal úlúmi.

Ngáli Luuta, mweteló reel http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf

Ngáli Seipél, mweteló reel http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf

Ngáli Tchiliyól, mweteló reel http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf

Ngáre u mwuschel rebwe seleti repood yeel, ngáre u tipáli ubwe kkapas ngáli escháy reel repood yeel, ngáre u mwuschel pappid yeel ngáre rebwe email-li ló ngálugh, faingi ló CUC me (670) 664-4282.

RIPOT KUÅLIDÅT HÅNOM ESTA MANAGUAHA

Iyon-mu 2017 (Dos Mit Diesi Sietti) na Ripot nu i Kuålidåt Hånom i CUC managuahayi på´gu giya on-line! På´gu na såkkan, in na´guahayi siparåo na ripot para kada´isla: Luta, Saipan, yan Tinian. Esti na ripot siha masaguaniniyi impottånti na infotmasion put i tutuhonña yan kuålidåt put i Hånom ni un gigimin.

Put fabot baba i tinattiyi na web sites para un atan håfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda´ gi hålum i hånom-mu gi durântin 2017 (Dos Mit Diesi Sietti) na såkkan para un ke´tungu´ mås put i hånom ni un gigimin.

Para Luta, hånao para http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Rota.pdf

Para Saipan, hånao para http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Saipan.pdf

Para Tinian, hånao para http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCR-2017-Tinian.pdf

Kumu un nisisita i ripot para u matranslåda, ya malagu´ hâo kumuentusi hâyi put i ripot pat malagu´ hâo kopian påppit u ma´entrega pat ma-email guatu para hâgu, put fabot hâgan i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

Liberation Day BIG SALE Jun 28 - Aug. 28, 2018

PACIFIC CHANG HONG CORPORATION
CHANGHONG AIR CONITIONER AND REFRIGERATOR
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR
P.O.BOX505201, SAIPAN MP96950
Tel: (670) 288-1593 483-1593
E-mail:pacificchanghongac@gmail.com

	REGULAR PRICE	LIBERATION DAY PRICE
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 9,000BTU 115V-220v 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$558	$448
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$608	$498
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$848	$748
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$948	$848
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$1,198	$1,098
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$1,698	$1,598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C 48,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 13.0 FREON R410	$2,498	$2,398
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 9,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 20.5 FREON R410	$698	$598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz SEER 18.4 FREON R410	$798	$698
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 18.3 FREON R410	$1,198	$998
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 20.9 FREON R410	$1,598	$1,398
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 18.8 FREON R410	$1,798	$1,598
Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C 36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz SEER 17.3 FREON R411	$1,998	$1,798
Lin's Air Brand New Energy Window Type A/C 5,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A	$248	$198
Lin's Air Brand New Energy WINDOW Type A/C 8,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A	$348	$298
Lin's Air Brand New Energy WINDOW Type A/C 12,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A	$348	$398
4.5 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	$380	$298
7.1 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	$488	$398
9.9 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	$698	$598
17.0 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	$898	$798
18.0 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR 115v 60HZ	$928	$828
13.8 CU. FT UPRIGHT FREEZER 115v 60HZ	$898	$798
7KG WASHING MACHINE 115V-60Hz 115v 60HZ	$499	$398
12KG WASHING MACHING 115V-60Hz 115v 60HZ	$599	$498

A/C INCLUDES:
1. Two years warranty from purchase date. (PARTS AND LABOR - SPLIT TYPE AIRCON)
2. One Year Warranty from date (Parts & Labor) Window Type, Refrigerator / Washing Machine
3. Free basic installation. (15Ft of co tubing & electrical)
4. Free wall bracket.
5. FREE REMOTE CONTROLLER REPLACEMENT (IF BROKEN)
6. NO Cleaning servicing included

EXCLUSSION:
1. Need power supply/ drop line for each A/C unit. (BEFORE A/C INSTALLATION)
2. Disconnect box / elect breaker. Not included.
3. Concrete slab for out-door unit (if needed) not included.

NOTE/REM: OVER BASIC INSTALLATION LABOR & MATERIAL (S) IS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS QUOTE.

Bank of Hawaii

NOTICE OF INACTIVE BANK ACCOUNTS

The following checking and savings accounts have been inactive for six months or more with Bank of Hawaii. The account owners should immediately contact Bank of Hawaii's Gulao Rai Branch at (670) 322-4200. Otherwise, the funds of each inactive account will be transferred to the CNMI Treasurer by October 1, 2018 (pursuant to Public Law 18-69, Section 4(b), The Commonwealth Escheatment Act of 2013 (the "Act") and Department of Commerce regulations at NMIAC 20-20.4. After such transfer, all inquiries pertaining to the account should be directed to the Office of Banking Division, Commonwealth Department of Commerce.

LESTER G ABIGANIA
1810 CAROLINE AVE APT L001
JUNCTION CITY KS 66441

JOSEPHINE R ACERO
PO BOX 10005 PMB 1555
SAIPAN MP 96950

TIRSO J ADRIATICO
PO BOX 10001 PMB 441
SAIPAN MP 96950

EDGARDO S AGUILAR
PMB 395 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

CORAZON D AGUINALDO
PO BOX 504311
SAIPAN MP 96950

DANNY B AGULTO
PO BOX 502577
SAIPAN MP 96950

TIMANG N AGUON
PO BOX 7536 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARISOL J ALBERO
PO BOX 505321
SAIPAN MP 96950

SATURNINO C ALCISO III
PMB 1002 PO BOX 10002
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHANE ANGELO V ALDAN
PO BOX 500333
SAIPAN MP 96950

ALII LLC
PO BOX 502628
SAIPAN MP 96950

NAZZIR V ALTAMIRANO
PO BOX 10000 PMB 509
SAIPAN MP 96950

SATURNINA M ALVAREZ
PO BOX 505679
SAIPAN MP 96950

RALPH NIGUEL D ALVARO
PMB 136 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

AM GROUP LLC
PMB 133 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

AMBER (SAIPAN) CO., LTD
PO BOX 502890
SAIPAN MP 96950

AMERICAN HERBAL
ESSENCE GROUP CORP
DBA PRETTY HOST
PMB 655 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

LILYBETH P ANDRADE
PO BOX 500828 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

NORMAN JESSTAN S ANGUI JR
PO BOX 8172 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

VICENTE T ARONCE
PMB 863 PO BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

ABRAHAM B ARRIOLA
EMMA ARRIOLA
2729 LOMBARD ST
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94123

ASIA AMERICA LLC
DBA MARIANAS TRANSLATION EXPERT
PO BOX 502770
SAIPAN MP 96950

CONSOLACION C ATALIG
PO BOX 501846
SAIPAN MP 96950

THOMAS MATTHEW AUSTIN
3599 GLENORA RD
DUNCAN BC V9L 6S3
CANADA

ELIZABETH A BABAUTA
PO BOX 5742 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

RAY L BABAUTA JR
PO BOX 5196 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

RICHARD M BALEARES
MARIA CRISTINA R BALEARES
PO BOX 503918 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

JEFFERSON ALVIN J BALTAZAR
PMB 551 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARY ANN P BALTAZAR
PMB 551 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

XIAOMING BAO
RU PAN
PMB 793 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

MASAKO BARGAMOTOV
TIARA 303 TOYA 231 YOMITAN-SON
NAKAGAMI-GUN OKINAWA 904-0305
JAPAN

HENRY M BARTOLOME
PMB 941 BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

ERWINA B BAS
PMB 166 PPP 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

JUDITH A BATALLONES
PO BOX 506361
SAIPAN MP 96950

DAVE SMITH C BAUTISTA
PO BOX 10000 PMB658
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANNALYN T BAUTISTA
PO BOX 504330
SAIPAN MP 96950

GABRIEL C BAYLON
PO BOX 501868
SAIPAN MP 96950

LUVI F BAYLON
PO BOX 501868
SAIPAN MP 96950

GILBERT A BELANTE
PO BOX 505936
SAIPAN MP 96950

BEN FITIAL FOUNDATION
PO BOX 501487
SAIPAN MP 96950

KELVIN G BERNARDO
ITF ROWENA Y BERNARDO
PO BOX 5200 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

MD NURUL BHUIYAN
PO BOX 504818
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHIRLEY ANN DLG BLAS
PO BOX 503786
SAIPAN MP 96950

XIANGDAN BIAN BORJA
PO BOX 506260
SAIPAN MP 96950

RICHARD F BROOKS
GRACE M BROOKS
PO BOX 506117
SAIPAN MP 96950

ASUNCION P BURNETTE
PO BOX 503168
SAIPAN MP 96950

MERIAM T CABADING
PO BOX 506190
SAIPAN MP 96950

RICHARD MICHAEL R CABIGAO
PO BOX 502501
SAIPAN MP 96950

FRANCISCO C CABRERA
DBA CARBRERAS FUNERAL
SERVICE DBA
DESIGN FLORIST DBA
F C CABRERA MGMT
PO BOX 501460
SAIPAN MP 96950

VIRGINIA R CABRERA
PO BOX 500516 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

ISIDORO T CABRERA
DBA I.T.C. AGRICULTURAL
CONSULTING SRVS
PO BOX 5374 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

RACHEL RENEE P CABRERA
PO BOX 503281
SAIPAN MP 96950

CALMA CORPORATION
DBA CALMA CONSTRUCTION
PMB 205 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950-8900

CALLEY B CAMACHO
PO BOX 500962
SAIPAN MP 96950

DELFIN S CAMACHO
PO BOX 7859 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

LILLIAN C CAMACHO DBA
LJ'S LAWN CARE
PO BOX 7002 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOSE MIGUEL D CANOY
PO BOX 10002 PMB 1231
SAIPAN MP 96950

VIRGIE B CAPACITE DBA
TRIPLE 8
PO BOX 506059
SAIPAN MP 96950

GILNOR B CAPARON
PO BOX 500208
SAIPAN MP 96950

DALE WILLIAM-J CARHILL
LIUSHU WU
PMB 452 PPP BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

CARLSMITH BALL LLP
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW
PARTNERSHIP LLP
CLIENT TRUST ACCOUNT
PO BOX 656
HONOLULU HI 96809

MARTIN B CASTRO
PO BOX 5741 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

CDN LLC
PMB 521 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANTONY B CEPEDA
PO BOX 500473 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

KYLE S N CEPEDA
PO BOX 5664 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

EUSEVIO S CHARGUALAF
NOEL T CHARGUALAF
DAVID T CHARGUALAF
PO BOX 500940 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

GHAZANFAR M CHAUDHRY
2153 AUHUHU ST
PEARL CITY HI 96782

RUI TONG CHEN
JINGJING GAO
PMB 464 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHIN CHIH CHIANG
YU PING/HSIN HUNG CHIANG
N 69 SANCHONG RD NANGANG
DISTRICT
TAIPEI CITY 115 TAIWAN

KUN SIK CHOI
PO BOX 501880 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

SENEN O COLETO
PO BOX 10002 PMB 550
SAIPAN MP 96950

COMMONWEALTH LEGAL SUPPORT
SERVICES, LLC
PO BOX 10003 PMB 1370
SAIPAN MP 96950

VICENTE M CONCEPCION
MARIANA R CONCEPCION
PO BOX 5031 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIANA R CONCEPCION
PO BOX 5031 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOAN T CORNISTA
PO BOX 504664
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIONE ELESSE DLC CORPUS
PO BOX 505604
SAIPAN MP 96950

EMILY L COWELL
PO BOX 501063
SAIPAN MP 96950

CAROLYN S CRISOSTOMO
PO BOX 500961
SAIPAN MP 96950

LAURA M CRUZ
RAYMOND A CRUZ
ITF ANTHONY DAVID M CRUZ
PO BOX 8136 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

RAD IAN L CRUZ
PO BOX 505649
SAIPAN MP 96950

CULTURA ATHLETICS, LLC
PO BOX 500912
SAIPAN MP 96950

CWM TRUST LLC
DBA CWM TRUST REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 500087
SAIPAN MP 96950

D & D INVESTMENTS LLC
PMB 2 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

EMILIANO D DAVID
MA BELLA M DAVID
PMB 441 130 W MARINE CORP DR
DEDEDO GU 96929

AINSLEY JENT M DE GUZMAN
PO BOX 8008 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

LEONORA G DE LEON
PO BOX 501029
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARTIN PATRICK N DE LOS ANGELES
MARIE KAREN T PAMINTUAN
CALLER BOX 10007
SAIPAN MP 96950

RAFAEL P DE QUIROZ
PO BOX 503589
SAIPAN MP 96950

YOLANDA A DE RAMOS
PO BOX 8169 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

FELICIA S DEBRUM
PO BOX 503692
SAIPAN MP 96950

PRIMITIVO DEL CASTILLO JR
PO BOX 505647
SAIPAN MP 96950

CARL MAERIZ O DELA CRUZ
PMB 16 BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

LAILANIE L DELA CRUZ
PO BOX 503800
SAIPAN MP 96950

CLAIRE A F DELACRUZ
801 S KING ST # 2102
HONOLULU HI 96813

FRANCISCO S DELACRUZ
PO BOX 503591
SAIPAN MP 96950

ELENA R DELOS SANTOS
DBA SAVANNAH'S COMMERCIAL
SPACE RENTAL
PO BOX 505964
SAIPAN MP 96950

RAFAEL S DEMAPAN
PO BOX 502365
SAIPAN MP 96950

DEVELOP IDEAS CORPORATION
DBA SOFTLAND COMPUTER
DBA IP DONG SOH EXPRESS DBA
SAIPANMALL N
PO BOX 503049
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOSEFINA N DIAZ
PO BOX 506009
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOSE PEPITO L DIGNO
PO BOX 505460
SAIPAN MP 96950

MA LALAINE M DIVINA
HERMILO A FELIPE
PO BOX 503264
SAIPAN MP 96950

GENOVEVA J DOMINGO
KARL JAMES DOMINGO
PO BOX 503124 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIELLE R STO DOMINGO
PO BOX 501687
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANABEL M DOMINGO
PMB 442 BOX 10005 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

CARMELITA D G DUENAS
PMB 785 PPP BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIA ROSA ELAMETO
ITF VICENTE ELAMETO SANCHEZ
PO BOX 501145
SAIPAN MP 96950

FERNANDO F ERESE
DBA HYDROAIRE MECHANICAL
SYSTEM
PO BOX 4786
AGANA GU 96932

ESTATE OF ELPIDIA CRUZ NAUTA
BERNADITA B DELA CRUZ,
ADMINISTRATRIX
PO BOX 5539 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

REGINE D EUGENIO
1570 S LUSK PL
BOISE ID 83706

ALEJANDRA BIANCA EVANGELISTA
JUAN L EVANGELISTA
PO BOX 5376 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

CECILIA M EVANGELISTA
PMB 232 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

LOUWIE G FARRO
PO BOX 7279 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

FEIXIANG CORPORATION
DBA FEIXIANG FARM
PMB 1483 BOX 10002
SAIPAN MP 96950

RANDALL T FENNELL
DBA LAW OFFICE OF RANDALL T
FENNELL
PO BOX 500049
SAIPAN MP 96950

JANNA MARIE M FEOLINO
PO BOX 505025
SAIPAN MP 96950

FIDEL S FERNANDEZ
PO BOX 502473
SAIPAN MP 96950-2473

PAUL H FERREIRA
AMBER M WESTON
PO BOX 501032 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

STEPHANIE T FLORES
PO BOX 500231
SAIPAN MP 96950

WALLON YOUNG FONG
VERONICA V YOUNG
PO BOX 5368
PAGO PAGO AS 96799

CHERRIE GEM B FRIAS
PO BOX 503787
SAIPAN MP 96950

WARLITA T GALLO
PO BOX 501031
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANDREAU A GALVEZ
PO BOX 505172
SAIPAN MP 96950

YANG GAO
PMB 133 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

RADINO S GARCIA
PO BOX 502434
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROCHELLE GWYN C GARON
PO BOX 501073
SAIPAN MP 96950

VAUGHN EDMUND GILLES
PO BOX 506407
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANNA E GLUSHKO
PO BOX 505794
SAIPAN MP 96950

KATRINA ANN B GO
20669 NE TRAILWALK DR G203
BEAVERTON OR 97006

EDEN ROSE M GONZALES
PO BOX 503324
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOYCE V GRAGASIN
ITF JUSTIN ANDREI V GRAGASIN
PMB 55 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

WASANA GREGORY
PMB 419 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOSEPH K DELEON GUERRERO
1946 CAMPUS DRIVE CBN # 104
HYDE PARK NY 12538-1499

CHAZRAE CHANTEL S DELEON
GUERRERO
PO BOX 505283
SAIPAN MP 96950

DANIEL T GUIDOTTI
PO BOX 506057 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

HERSEY O GUILLERMO
PO BOX 7396 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

HA & JO INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC
DBA SAIPAN PHOTO
PO BOX 506483
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHEA KENNEDY HARTIG
PMB 2541 PO BOX 10002
SAIPAN MP 96950

TIMOTHY C HAUGHT
EMMIE WONG N JOHN SINGH
PMB 593 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROSALIE E HECHANOVA
ROMEO A HECHANOVA
PO BOX 506600
SAIPAN MP 96950

BRIGIDO S HERNANDEZ
ARSENIA D HERNANDEZ
PO BOX 501091 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

VIOLETA T HERNANDEZ
ALEXIS JOHN T HERNANDEZ
PO BOX 505837
SAIPAN MP 96950-4303

HILARIA KISA SANTOS RLT DTD
2/11/2016
JUANET S SABLAN
PO BOX 501571
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHUN XIA HINSON
PO BOX 503722
SAIPAN MP 96950

MOHAMMAD ZAKIR HOSSAIN
PO BOX 506264
SAIPAN MP 96950

KUNLAN HUANG
PMB 134 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

I I CORPORATION
DBA TORI HIDE
PMB 670 PPP BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

ARMANDO H ILAGAN
PO BOX 501023
SAIPAN MP 96950

MINORU IMAI
PMB 465 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

FINI F INOS
PO BOX 502044
SAIPAN MP 96950

JACK CORPORATION
PO BOX 5067 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

DYLAN G JACOLBE
PO BOX 502457
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAG CORPORATION (CNMI) INC
(MANPOWER SERVICES)
PO BOX 505426
SAIPAN MP 96950

ZENAIDA C JAVIER
PO BOX 502726
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIA M JAVIER
PO BOX 505051
SAIPAN MP 96950

JEREMY S RICHARDS MD
DBA CHALAN HINEMLU
PMB 413 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

DEANE E JESSEE- JONES
DBA BRAIN BUILDERS-SAIPAN
PO BOX 7364 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

SATOKO JOJIMA
PMB 10
PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

JESSIE R JOLEJOLE
PO BOX 500689
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAY B JONES
DEANE E JESSEE JONES
ITF JACOB J JONES
PO BOX 6066
TAMUNING GU 96931

JAY B JONES
DEANE E JESSEE JONES
ITF JENNA J JONES
PO BOX 6066
TAMUNING GU 96931

JAY B JONES
DEANE E JESSEE JONES
ITF JEREMY J JONES
PO BOX 6066
TAMUNING GU 96931

GODOFREDO H JUACALLA
PO BOX 500270
SAIPAN MP 96950

ASHER M JUELE
EILEEN I DURAN
PO BOX 505413
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAMES DEAN KALLAS
93 ALBERT RAYBURN RD
COLUMBIA MS 39429

KAM FUNG INVESTMENT SAIPAN LLC
PMB 76 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

JUN SUN KANG
BOX 10001 PMB 152
SAIPAN MP 96950

SUNG YEOUP KANG
PMB 740 BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

SUN YOUNG KANG
PMB 456 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

KEN K KATO
LEONISA IGITOL KATO
PO BOX 500591 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

JUNG OK KIM
PMB 185 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

SCARLETT C KIM
BOX 125 PPP 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

SOON HWA KIM
PMB 1204 BOX 10002
SAIPAN MP 96950

YOUBIN KIM
PO BOX 501029
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHIN WOO KIM
PO BOX 500240
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARY M LAABRUG
PO BOX 506682
SAIPAN MP 96950

LILIA M LABARDA
LOPE D ELISEBIO
PO BOX 504943
SAIPAN MP 96950

VICENTA S LACANLALE
ITF EDWARD S LACANLALE
PO BOX 505158
SAIPAN MP 96950

CLOE FERLYN S LAGMAY
PO BOX 502105
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROMANDO D LAGRIO
PO BOX 500066
SAIPAN MP 96950

REY N LAMIS
PO BOX 502941
SAIPAN MP 96950

EVELYN S LAPUZ
PO BOX 506321
SAIPAN MP 96950

ERIC RC LARSON
CLAUDIA SN LARSON
PO BOX 5144 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHENFANG LAURITZEN
PO BOX 503992 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

QUIROBIN A LAXINA
ITF GRACIA A LAXINA
PMB 172 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

AMIHAN C LAZAGA
PO BOX 10003 PMB 149
SAIPAN MP 96950

RENWEI LI
PMB 406 PO BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

XUANKUN LI
LINGLING CHENG
PO BOX 505578
SAIPAN MP 96950

MINTAO LI
PO BOX 7692 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

LI YANG LI
PO BOX 502090
SAIPAN MP 96950

KANG HENG LIANG
PMB 163 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

JULIE T LIETO
PO BOX 503180
SAIPAN MP 96950

SANG MI LIM
PMB 125 PPP 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

JULIE J LINA
PO BOX 505107
SAIPAN MP 96950

REYMUND D LINA
PO BOX 504330
SAIPAN MP 96950

QIUTONG LIU
PMB 777 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

XIU ZHEN LIZAMA
PO BOX 502464
SAIPAN MP 96950

JEANILLE ELSEANOR DLC LIZAMA
PO BOX 502193
SAIPAN MP 96950

EDUARDO C LLAGA
PO BOX 7134 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

OLIVIA C LLEVA
PO BOX 8065 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

DAVID FRANCIS LOAN
ITF TRISTAN JAMES LOAN
PMB 614 PPP PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANGELO T LOBO
PO BOX 503810
SAIPAN MP 96950

EDITA N LOCSIN
PO BOX 502701
SAIPAN MP 96950

CARMELITO C LOPEZ
PO BOX 501730
SAIPAN MP 96950

ELENA D LOPEZ
PO BOX 503341
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANDREA ELOUISE A LOSTE
PO BOX 505656
SAIPAN MP 96950

CENDY A MACALINAO DBA
RCM COMPANY
PO BOX 500703
SAIPAN MP 96950

ERNANI V MACAYAN
PMB 677 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROLANDO J MADRID
PO BOX 5017 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

BLAS JUDE F MAFNAS
ITF TYLER JUDE A MAFNAS
155 MONTEBURG RD
FORT BRAGG NC 28307

KIYOMI FUJITA MAFNAS
ITF DAVID FUJITA MAFNAS
ITF DANIEL FUJITA MAFNAS
PMB 584 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

KIYOMI FUJITA MAFNAS
ITF DAVID FUJITA MAFNAS
PMB 584 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

KIYOMI FUJITA MAFNAS
PMB 584 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

EDGAR D MAGLENTE
PMB 658 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

MILAGROS A MAGO
PO BOX 500165
SAIPAN MP 96950

VICTOR P MALLARI
PMB 384 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

AGNES DLC MANACOP
PO BOX 502696
SAIPAN MP 96950

NELIA P MANALANG
PMB 614 PPP BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

BEA BIANCA S MANALO
PO BOX 7409 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

ELMOR G MANDREZA
PO BOX 505144
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANGEL GRACE B MANO
PO BOX 504330
SAIPAN MP 96950

E J N MANUZON
PO BOX 506377
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHERWIN G MARGALLO
PO BOX 10000 PMB 206
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIANAS FISHING INC
PMB 541 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

EDERLYN M MARIANO
PMB 271 BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARTHAS RETAIL SHOP INC
PO BOX 5437
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHRISTINE S MASGA
PO BOX 572
ROTA MP 96951

MATHEW C MASGA
ROSALIE R MASGA
PO BOX 613
TINIAN MP 96952

CHIRAPAN A MCGUIRE
PO BOX 504502
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHANNON ANGELINE T MENDIOLA
PO BOX 502513
SAIPAN MP 96950

MAXIMO R MENDOZA
PMB 1020 PPP BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

HIDEO MIYAZAWA
PMB 670 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

MOHR CORPORATION
DBA MOHR BEAUTY SALON
PO BOX 506077
SAIPAN MP 96950

ERNESTO T MOISES JR
ITF ERNESTO A MOISES III
PMB 571 BOX 10002
SAIPAN MP 96950

SAMUEL I MOK
PMB 1031 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

MONALISA'S DREAM INC
DBA MONALISA
PO BOX 504450
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROWENA T MONTENEGRO
PMB 1012 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

EMERITO F MONTERO
PMB 181 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

MAY MYLENE R MORAL
PO BOX 520803
TINIAN MP 96952

MARIE ANTONETTE P MORALES
PMB 1639 PO BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

MOTION INFORMATION CORPORATION
DBA YUGE WEB PRODUCTION
DBA YUGE RETAIL DBA YUGE MEDIA ADV
PMB 783 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANTHONY MOTOLA
PMB 738 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

MT INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION
PMB 729 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

SAYAN MUNMAI
PMB 142 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

MAUREEN N MUTISYA
PO BOX 7756 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

KUNIYOSHI NAKADA
PO BOX 504168
SAIPAN MP 96950

MAYUMI NAKADAI
PMB 732 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANTONIO Q NAOG
PO BOX 501582
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANGELICA J NARVAEZ
PO BOX 502418
SAIPAN MP 96950

CLAYTON A NAULGAN
PO BOX 5017 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

RANDALL MARTIN NELSON
3420 GREENTOWN RD
DE RIDDER LA 70634

BENHART NGIRABLOSCH
PO BOX 504443
SAIPAN MP 96950

WANDA A NICHOLAS
PO BOX 5320 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

NOVEL PROJECT (CNMI) LIMITED
3F, NO6 MOSQUE STREET CENTRAL
HONG KONG

REGINA C NUYDA
PO BOX 504332
SAIPAN MP 96950

NV PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC
PMB 29 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

OFF THE BEATEN PATH
PO BOX 502849
SAIPAN MP 96950

OREOR CLUB OF CNMI INC
PMB 462 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

BERNARD OSBORNE
REIKO H M OSBORNE
92-6986 PULIKO ST
KAPOLEI HI 96707

WILLIAM C OWENS
MA SHIERILINE F OWENS
ITF KANOA ELAM OWENS
PO BOX 5085 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

OXFORD INSTITUTE ACADEMY LLC
PMB 365 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANALYN S PABILONA
PO BOX 7011 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

PACIFIC EMPIRE LLC
PO BOX 501856
SAIPAN MP 96950

PACIFIC MARINE ENTERPRISES, INC.
PMB 1, BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

IRISH JAY C PADERNAL
PO BOX 505041 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

NELSON M PAGADUAN
PO BOX 10003 PMB 687
SAIPAN MP 96950

AMORSOLO M PAGCO
PO BOX 504543
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHENYANG LIN PALACIOS
PO BOX 505729
SAIPAN MP 96950

PATRICIA T PALACIOS
ITF TRICIA T PALACIOS
PO BOX 500172
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAYPEE T PANIZA
PMB 332 PPP BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

JESUS A PANTALEON
PO BOX 503707
SAIPAN MP 96950

AGNES N PANTOLA
PMB 314 BOX 10005
SAIPAN MP 96950

PARADISE LLC
PMB 769 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

HAYU PARK
PO BOX 501029
SAIPAN MP 96950

BYUNG HOON PARK
DBA WORLD VITA
PMB 471 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANGELO A PERALTA
PO BOX 500609
SAIPAN MP 96950

REMEDIOS C PERALTA
PO BOX 502547
SAIPAN MP 96950

RAYMOND ANTHONY C PETER
PO BOX 501472
SAIPAN MP 96950

ALVIN WAYNE PETERSON
ITF JUDITH ANN SHERWIN
PO BOX 8056 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

JILL RIVAS PIERCE
CAROL LYNN CALOBONG-PIERCE
PO BOX 503514
SAIPAN MP 96950

JESUS P PINEDA
PO BOX 500061
SAIPAN MP 96950

PUYANG CONSTRUCTION
CORPORATION
PMB 181 PO BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHENGSHENG QIAN
PMB 216 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

DIANA M QUITUGUA
PO BOX 5408 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROMEO C QUIZON
PO BOX 501910
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAMES A RABAULIMAN JR
PO BOX 504157
SAIPAN MP 96950

BERNARDO REY RAGO
ITF LUCAS MATTHEW GARON
PO BOX 505836
SAIPAN MP 96950

NICHOLAS SABLAN RAMON
PMB 357 PPP PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOHNKAE A RAQUEPO
PO BOX 502503
SAIPAN MP 96950

YUKI WADA RECHUCHER
WYMAN E RECHUCHER
PO BOX 5437 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

HUIMIN REN
PO BOX 504715
SAIPAN MP 96950

ANDY A DELOS REYES
PO BOX 505789
SAIPAN MP 96950

LORNA A RIVERA
PO BOX 505862
SAIPAN MP 96950

ALFRED D ROBERTS ITF
AMBER LYNN ROBERTS
PMB 350 PPP
PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

HONGRONG SUN RODENHUIS
PO BOX 904
BILOXI MS 39533

JOSE S ROPPUL
PO BOX 502685
SAIPAN MP 96950

NOEL M ROQUE
VICTORIA D ROQUE
426 FERN ST
PHILADELPHIA PA 19120

JERALPH G ROSAL
JERRY G ROSAL JR
PO BOX 10002 PMB 1324
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAGADISH C ROY
HAI YAN ZONG
PO BOX 502082 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

DOMAN RYU
PO BOX 505706 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

GIRLIE B SAAVEDRA
PO BOX 505242
SAIPAN MP 96950

FRANCINE B SABLAN
PO BOX 502897
SAIPAN MP 96950

LEONORA E SAGNIT
PO BOX 504209
SAIPAN MP 96950

SAIPAN AQUA WORLD INC
PMB 630 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

SAIPAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
(BEHEVOLENT FUND)
PO BOX 500549
SAIPAN MP 96950

ALBERT R SALAS
PO BOX 503379
SAIPAN MP 96950

SALVADOR E SALCEDO
PO BOX 505551
SAIPAN MP 96950

DAVID CHRISTIAN G SALINAS
PO BOX 504179
SAIPAN MP 96950

LYKA NICOLE C SALLY
PO BOX 10003 PMB 39
SAIPAN MP 96950-8903

SAM LLC
PMB 1165 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

LORNA SAN MATEO CHAN
ITF CEDIE S M CHAN
PO BOX 7187 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

SOL CONSUELO C SAN NICOLAS
PO BOX 504896
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAIRON M SANAREZ
PO BOX 506083
SAIPAN MP 96950

EDWARD S SANCHEZ
THEODOSIA K SANCHEZ
PO BOX 92
TINIAN MP 96952

EMELINDA E SANCHEZ
VICENTE M SANCHEZ
PO BOX 505909
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARIA TERESA G SANCHEZ
PO BOX 502073
SAIPAN MP 96950

HILARIA K SANTOS
JUANET S SABLAN
PO BOX 501571
SAIPAN MP 96950

EFREN B SANTOS
147 DAMA DE NOCHE LN
LATTE HEIGHTS
MANGILAO GU 96913

YOLANDA S DELOS SANTOS
PO BOX 503477
SAIPAN MP 96950

EMILY S SANTOS
PO BOX 501328
SAIPAN MP 96950

GEMMA P SANTOS
PMB 904 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOEL A SAPLAN
PO BOX 501371
SAIPAN MP 96950

WILFREDO B SATUROS
PMB 139 PPP PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

SATOMI L SEKI
PO BOX 7932 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

KEON SEO
PO BOX 501519
SAIPAN MP 96950

GRENDELL O SERION
PO BOX 506560
SAIPAN MP 96950

RANDY M SERRANO
PO BOX 10003 PMB 125
SAIPAN MP 96950

SHAMYOOK INCORPORATED
DBA SUNSET APARTMENT
PO BOX 505501
SAIPAN MP 96950

BARBARA A SHER
DBA BRIGHT BABY BOOKS
DBA WRITE ART
PMB 6 PO BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

HYE LIN SHIN
PMB 373 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

BECHES SINGEO
C/O DUDUL
PO BOX 07
KOROR PW 96940

SKYWALKER COMMUNICATIONS
GROUP, LLC
PMB 1043 PO BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

KRISTINE S SOPENA
PO BOX 502052
SAIPAN MP 96950

JINGJIAN SU
PO BOX 505530 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

ARTHUR S SULAP
PO BOX 10000 PPP 452
SAIPAN MP 96950

ROLLAND C SUMPAY
PO BOX 500066
SAIPAN MP 96950

JUNG HYUN SUNG
PO BOX 505749
SAIPAN MP 96950

SUNNY'S & PETER'S INCORPORATION
DBA SUNNY'S & PETER'S
PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO
PMB 538 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

SUPER STAR, INC.
DBA EC STAR TECHNOLOGY
PO BOX 502934
SAIPAN MP 96950

MAYUMI SUZUKI
MITSUNOBU SUZUKI
PO BOX 501778
SAIPAN MP 96950

KENTARO SUZUKI
PMB 696 BOX 10000
SAIPAN MP 96950

CONNIE MANGLONA TAISACAN
ITF: LUCIA B CAMACHO
PO BOX 501034 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

SYDNEY J TAKAHASHY
PMB 731 BOX 10003
SAIPAN MP 96950

LIZA M TAMBA
PO BOX 505896
SAIPAN MP 96950

SUNNY TAN
PO BOX 501029
SAIPAN MP 96950

TAN FAMILY TRUST DATED 12/6/97
SIU LIN TAN TRUSTEE
PO BOX 501280
SAIPAN MP 96950

FRANCISCA B TARO
HUMIE T SKILANG
HELEN T ATALIG/BARBARA B TARO
3829 JASMINE CIR
SAN JOSE CA 95135

KATHRENE T TAYLOR DBA
PARADISE WHOLESALE
PO BOX 5373 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

JAMES WILLIAM TAYLOR
1001 4TH AVE SUITE 3200
SEATTLE WA 98154

EVANGELINE T TECSON
PMB 681 PO BOX 10012
SAIPAN MP 96950

PRISCILLA T TENORIO
PO BOX 501938
SAIPAN MP 96950

REMEDIO A TENORIO
PO BOX 502676
SAIPAN MP 96950

DIANALYN C TESIRO
PO BOX 5737 CHRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

THE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
MISSION OF NMI DBA SAIPAN
SDA SCHOOL
ELEMENTARY SAVINGS ACCOUNT
PO BOX 501063
SAIPAN MP 96950

THOMASA PALACIOS COLEMAN RLT
DTD 6/3/14
THOMASA P COLEMAN TRUSTEE
PO BOX 503029
SAIPAN MP 96950

TERRENCE E THOSERT-BELCHER
PMB 233 BOX 10002
SAIPAN MP 96950

JEANE P TIBAYAN
PMB 179 BOX 10001
SAIPAN MP 96950

SESINANDO JERRY E TOLENTINO
PO BOX 505795
SAIPAN MP 96950

BARBARA A TORRES
AUDREY JOY ADA
PO BOX 501385
SAIPAN MP 96950

JOCELYN GONZAGA TOSKAS
PO BOX 7912 SVRB
SAIPAN MP 96950

TRINITY ESTATE INC
DBA TRINITY ESTATE
PO BOX 504065
SAIPAN MP 96950

CARLITO G TROZADO
PO BOX 502370
SAIPAN MP 96950

DENNIS D TUPAS
PO BOX 504357 CK
SAIPAN MP 96950

CHRISTINE M UNAY
PO BOX 503428
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARY IRENE SIY UY
PO BOX 505946
SAIPAN MP 96950

MARVIN M VALLE
PO BOX 502631
SAIPAN MP 96950

BENJAMIN

Chamber, NMC to host Candidate Debate

» Delegate, gubernatorial debates in mid-September

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, in collaboration with the Northern Marianas College, will host a Candidate Debate for the CNMI gubernatorial and U.S. delegate races in mid-September 2018.

These forums are offered in the effort to further educate voters on the issues of our island by presenting the opportunity to hear differing opinions and solutions, and for those who are unfamiliar with the various platforms of each candidate.

The Candidate Debate will occur over a two-day period to properly highlight each gubernatorial and U.S. delegate candidate. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and former governor Juan N. Babauta have been invited to participate in the gubernatorial debate. U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) and Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) have both been invited to participate in the U.S. Delegate Debate.

Each candidate will be given equal time to answer questions submitted in advance by the general public. Time limits will be enforced fairly and equally in accordance with standard debate procedures. Additional details will be advertised as the event nears. The Chamber looks forward to working with the Northern Marianas College in preparation for this significant event. The Chamber welcomes the community's input regarding current issues and future needs.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization with over 160 members to date. The SCC was founded in 1959 and incorporated in 1976. It is the largest private business organization in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Chamber works to promote and protect the business, economic, and civic interest, and general health and welfare of our islands. If you would like more information about our event or our organization, please call our office at (670) 234-7150 or email administrator@saipan-chamber.com. ***(PR)***

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS
SAIPAN MARIANAS LIONS CLUB DISTRICT 204 U.S.A.
CHARTERED: MAY 22, 1999
THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LIONS CLUBS
SAIPAN ALLIANCE LIONS CLUB
LIONS CLUB DISTRICT 204 U.S.A.
CHARTERED: MARCH 30, 2016
Sponsored by: SAIPAN MARIANAS LIONS CLUB
Donated by: PDG EMELIO Y. UY, PMJF

RICE DONATION

The Saipan Marianas Lions Club and the Saipan Alliance Lions Club banded together and made a large donation of rice to the Kristo Rai Parish in their mission to relieve hunger. The two clubs turned over 50 bags of rice at 10 lbs apiece last week to complete the "relieving hunger'" part of their centennial service challenge. Fr. Ken Hezel received the donation on behalf of the parish.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP18-DCCA/CCDF-111

SUBMISSION DATE: JULY 16, 2018 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"AFTERSCHOOL –SCHOOL AGE CARE WORKSHOP/TRAINING MATERIALS AND MODULES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT FUND"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT THE CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND OFFICE, BUILDING 1347, ASCENCION COURT IN CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN ON **JULY 06, 2018 AT 09:30 A.M.**
QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MS. MARIBEL LOSTE, PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR VIA EMAIL TO **ccdf.maribelloste@gmail.com OR** VIA FACSIMILE TO **(670) 664-2547**, **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 03, 2018**.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTERST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ ROBERT H. HUNTER
SECRETARY, DCCA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-010-18

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT SERVICES

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), a public corporation and an instrumentality of the government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, is soliciting proposals from qualified persons or firms to provide Risk Management Consultant Services for the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Request for Proposal (RFP) package may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport beginning June 15, 2018, from Monday to Friday, excluding holidays, between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

Deadline for submission of all proposals is Friday, July 16, 2018, before 2:00 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time (Saipan Time). All proposals must be addressed to Christopher S. Tenorio, Executive Director and submitted to his office, mentioned above.

Deadline for submission of all questions and clarifications (RFI) is June 29, 2018. All questions should be submitted via email to chris.tenorio@cpa.gov.mp with copy to atudela@cpa.gov.mp.

CPA shall have the right to reject, in whole or in part, proposals or offers which have been submitted in response to the RFP, and/or cancel the RFP if it is determined to be in the interest of CPA and/or for whatever reasons allowed by law and/or regulations. This right to reject and/or cancel is also pursuant to the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulation.

Proposer's direct or indirect contact with any CPA board members, management, staff, or any persons participating in the selection process is prohibited.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Date: June 07, 2018

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the Perimeter Security Fence Replacement at the Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport, Rota, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, Project AIP No. CPA-RS-002-15.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Thomas Camacho Mendiola Commercial Seaport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement, Rota, CNMI, Project No. CPA-RS-002-15" and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2018**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read at the Saipan Airport Conference Room immediately after 2:00 p.m. on the same day..

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to complete removal of fencing and concrete post footings and installation of new fence and concrete footings, all in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) Calendar Days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED ($300.00) Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A CD-ROM containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS ($150.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager's Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, at **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2018**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. A site visit will be followed by the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the bid opening date.

Each bid proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders shall use the bid schedule form available on the CD. Each bidder must also supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

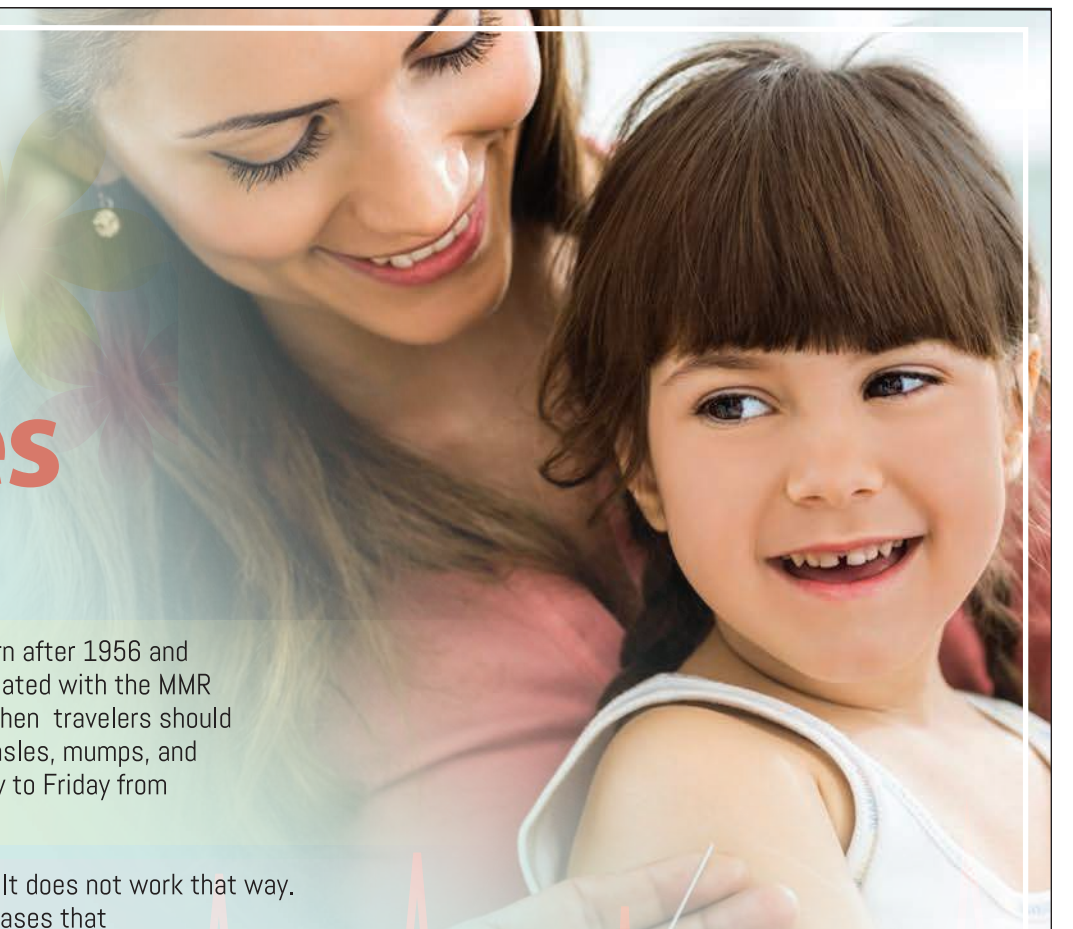
The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or misenter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed surety or CPA approved company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority. All bidders shall comply with all U.S. and CNMI laws pertaining to construction.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



Don't Let Mumps and Measles spoil your fun.

Due to outbreaks of MUMPS in Yap and MEASLES in the Philippines, all persons born after 1956 and travelling to YAP for the Micronesian Games or to the Philippines should get vaccinated with the MMR vaccine at least 28 days before departure. If 28 days before departure is missed then travelers should get the MMR vaccine as soon as possible. The MMR vaccine protects us from measles, mumps, and rubella and it can be administered at all Public Health Immunization clinics Monday to Friday from 7:30am to 4:30pm. Please call 670 236 8745 for more information.

Please note that people cannot get vaccinated today and be protected tomorrow. It does not work that way. Vaccines need time to build anti-bodies in our system in order to fight and kill diseases that enter our body so please do not wait for the last minute to get vaccinated.

Mumps most commonly causes fever and parotitis. Up to 25% of persons with mumps have few or no symptoms. Complications of mumps include orchitis (inflammation of the testicle) and oophoritis (inflammation of the ovary). Other complications of mumps include pancreatitis, deafness, aseptic meningitis, and encephalitis.

Measles can lead to serious complications and death, even with modern medical care. The 1989–1991 measles outbreak in the U.S. resulted in more than 55,000 cases and more than 100 deaths. In the United States, from 1987 to 2000, the most commonly reported complications associated with measles infection were pneumonia (6%), otitis media (7%), and diarrhea (8%). For every 1,000 reported measles cases in the United States, approximately one case of encephalitis and two to three deaths resulted. The risk for death from measles or its complications is greater for infants, young children, and adults than for older children and adolescents.

What is preventive care?

- Preventive care includes health services like screening exams, check-ups, and patient counseling
- Getting preventive care helps to lower your chances of getting very sick or developing infections
- Getting preventive care finds illness at an early stage when treatment is likely to work best.

Examples of preventive care services include:

TESTS
Blood Pressure
Diabetes Control

CANCER SCREENINGS
Mammograms and Colonoscopies

STD SCREENINGS
Sexually Transmittted Infections

REGULAR VISITS
Well-woman, well-baby and well-child

INTERVENTION
Quit smoking, lose weight, eat healthy, identify depression, reduce alcohol use, avoid sexually transmitted disease

CARE
For Healthy Pregnancies

VACCINATIONS
Flu, Pheumonia, Measles, Polio, Meningitis and Other Diseases

Getting recommended preventive services and making healthy lifestyle choices are key steps to good health and well-being.

For more information call: **Family Care Clinic:** 236-8309 **Children's Clinic:** 236-8374 **Women's Care Clinic:** 236-3521 **Immunization Program:** 236-8745

US military aims for $1B missile defense radar in Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP)—The U.S. military wants to install missile defense radar in Hawaii to identify any ballistic missiles that are fired from North Korea or elsewhere, officials said Tuesday.

The $1 billion system would spot warheads on missiles headed for Hawaii and other U.S. states, and provide that information to ground-based interceptors in Alaska designed to shoot them down. It would be able to distinguish warheads from decoys that are designed to trick missile defense systems.

The radar would help give the Alaska missiles "better eyes," said Sen. Brian Schatz, a Democrat from Hawaii and a supporter of the project.

So far, lawmakers have appropriated $61 million for planning but not funds for construction. Schatz, who serves on the defense subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, said he doesn't have much doubt about the likelihood of follow-on funding.

The radar would be about 30 to 50 feet (9 to 15 meters) wide and 60 feet to 80 feet (18 to 24 meters) high, according to the Missile Defense Agency.

It will likely to have a flat-face surface like one in Shemya, Alaska, instead of a ball-like appearance of other military radar. Experts say the larger the face, the more precisely it will be able to distinguish between warheads and decoys.

The agency is studying two possible locations for the radar, both of which are on Oahu's North Shore. It's collecting public comment through July 16.

Schatz said lawmakers discussed the radar with the previous commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific, Adm. Harry Harris, who recently retired and has been nominated to be the U.S. ambassador to South Korea.

"We already have robust capabilities, but working with Admiral Harris, we wanted to double down and make sure we have the most powerful combination of missile interceptors and radar systems anywhere," Schatz said in a phone interview.

The radar would help identify long-range ballistic missile threats mid-way through flight.

David Santoro, a director and senior fellow for nuclear policy at the Pacific Forum think tank in Honolulu, said threats from North Korea were increasing as Pyongyang developed more sophisticated missiles and nuclear weapons.

"Over the past few weeks, we have seen a so-called peace initiative developing, but the reality is the threat is still there. It's not going away," Santoro said. The U.S. would be expected to build a radar system to counter the threats, he said.

U.S. concerns about the threat from North Korean missiles spiked last year as North Korea test-fired long-range missile over Japan and threatened to launch ballistic missiles toward the Guam, a major U.S. military hub in the Pacific. President Donald Trump warned the U.S. military was "locked and loaded, should North Korea act unwisely" and that the U.S. would unleash "fire and fury" on the North if it continued to threaten America.

But then Trump and North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, met in Singapore earlier this month and issued a declaration agreeing to "work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

The statement did not define a process, say when it would begin or say how long it might take.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950

WIC WOMEN • INFANTS • CHILDREN

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program is now accepting Vendor Applications for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, beginning June 04, 2018; Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or download an application on CHCC's website at http://chcc.gov.mp/index.php/division-of-public-health/women-infants-and-children-program

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program's Administrative Office no later than 4:00 p.m., July 13, 2018.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4067, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ **Esther L. Muna**
Chief Executive Office
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ **Erin Angela Camacho**
WIC Program Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner/
Claimant Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JULIANA S. RUBEN, Deceased.) CIVIL ACTION NO.: 06-0414) NOTICE OF HEARING ON AMENDED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION; and) NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, CLAIMANTS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE JULIANA S. RUBEN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Petitioner/Claimant, **Marianas Public Land Trust**, has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to issue Letters of Administration for the **Estate of Juliana S. Ruben, Decedent.** The attorney for Petitioner is **Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950.**

The hearing on the Amended Petition for Letters of Administration by **Petitioner/Claimant Marianas Public Land Trust** is scheduled to be heard on **Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.** at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guma' Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the Decedent or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within Sixty (60) days of the first publication, or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of you claim should also be sent to **ROBERT T. TORRES, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated.**

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2018.

/s/ Clerk ofCourt
Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff, Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. JOSEPH O. TAITANO and DEBORAH DLG. TAITANO, Defendants. | **Civil Action No. 16-0154** | **NOTICE OF AUCTION ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of a judgment made and entered in the above titled action on the 18th day of May, 2018, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due Plaintiff in the above titled action from Defendants, as prescribed in the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **10th day of August, 2018 at 10 a.m.,** at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being in As Lito on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 361-2-2.

Lot 361-2-2 (formerly part of Lot 361, TD 122), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2031/01, the original of which was recorded 02 March 2004 as Document No. 04-457 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) to reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758 CK Saipan, MP 96950 or Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
3. Deposit and Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in the property will revert to Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 06th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

LT Travel, TMO give $20K hole-in-one for HANMI tourney

Thanks to LT Travel and the Tinian Mayor's Office, $20,000 is up for grabs as a hole-in-one prize at the 17th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament on July 14, 2018, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort east course.

LT Travel president Ken Chen and staff made the donation to the tournament committee earlier this month.

"We're very grateful to LT Travel and the Tinian Mayor's Office for stepping forward this year and making this phenomenal $20,000 hole-in-one prize available," said tournament chair Tyrell Pauling of Hyatt Regency Saipan. "We truly appreciate their support of the charitable work HANMI does, and we are very much hoping to have one lucky player walk away with this prize next Saturday."

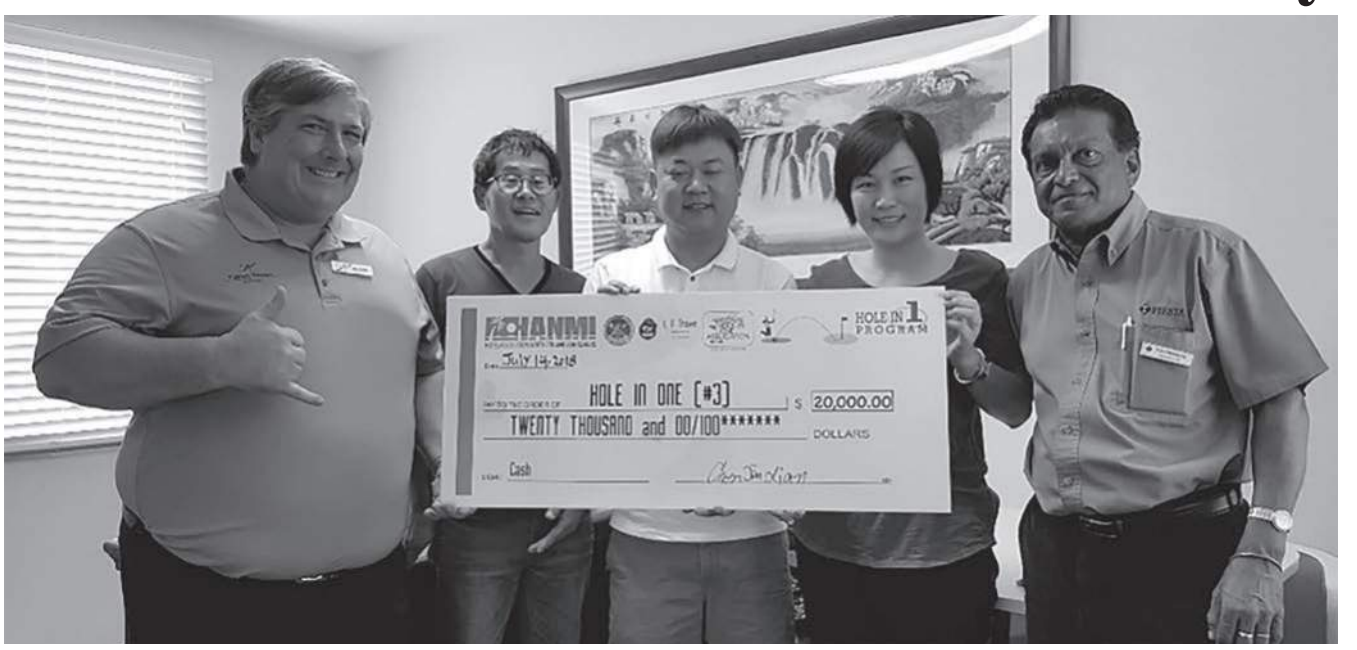
The tournament is also offering several other hole-in-prizes, including $5,000 cash sponsored by Pacifica Insurance, $20,000 cash sponsored by Century Tours, $5,000 cash sponsored by Century Insurance, $2,500 cash sponsored by Traders Insurance, a 2018 CXS-GT from Triple J Motors, an airline ticket from Asiana Airlines, and a 2018 C-HR from AK Toyota.

The early bird tournament fee is $120 and includes green fee and the awards banquet. The fee increases to $140 after the early bird deadline on July 6 at 5pm. For an additional $30, players may also compete for optional play prizes, including accurate drive circle, nearest to the pin, longest drive, shortest drive, and accurate drive line. The tournament will start at 7am.

Registration forms are now available at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, and Coral Ocean Golf Resort or www.facebook.com/HANMI670. The tournament is open to the first 144 paid registrants. Cash, cars, hotel night stays, and other prizes await the winners.

The awards banquet, featuring a wide selection of dishes from the kitchens of HANMI member hotels, will be held on July 14, 2018, at 6pm at Fiesta Resort & Spa.

For more information, contact tournament chair Tyrell Pauling at tyrell.pauling@hyatt.com or (670) 234-1234. ***(PR)***



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LT Travel president Ken Chen, center, presents a $20,000 hole-in-one prize in June 2018, at their office in Saipan for the 17th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament. The prize is sponsored by the Tinian Mayor's Office. Pictured from left are tournament committee member Glenn Policare, committee member Steve Jang, Chen, Jessie Xiao of LT Travel, and committee member Das Krishnan.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber meeting on July 5

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have a general membership meeting on July 5, a Thursday, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan. Guest speakers will be Labor Secretary Vicky Benavente, who will share some important updates, and Arielle Buyum, executive director of Latte Training Academy, who will provide updates on the classes held through the CW program funding. Lunch will begin at 11:30am and the meeting will follow promptly at 12pm. Reservations will be accepted only for parties of four or more. Contact Chamber administrator Mercilynn Palec at administrator@saipanchamber.com or 234-7150. ***(PR)***

MHS student orientations set

Marianas High School will be conducting their school year 2018-2019 student orientations:

- Aug. 9, 9am-12pm: Incoming freshmen & new transfer students; school gym
- Aug. 10, 9am-12pm: Sophomores; school gym
- Aug. 13, 9am-12pm: Juniors; school gym
- Aug. 14, 9am-12pm: Seniors; school gym

MHS students can now register for their courses by visiting our school website at marianashighschool.com or logging in directly to https://goo.gl/forms/bJKezkcxaGos9WVx2. ***(PR)***

Power interruption tomorrow in Puerto Rico

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said there will be a scheduled power interruption on June 30 from 5am to 10am in Puerto Rico, affecting Sadog Tasi and first partial of Puerto Rico. The Sadog Tasi Treatment Plant will be affected but not water wells. Four power poles will be replaced. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-018

ISLAND WIDE WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United Sates of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation to verify leaks and leak repair on various types of waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **July 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-018: Island Wide Waterline Repairs, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 19, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidder. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 5, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Ms. Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Procurement & Supply

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-18-024

REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF ENGINE # 8 AND # 4 FRAME, BLOCK & ALTERNATOR PARTS AT POWER PLANT NO.1, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the removal and relocation of Engine 8 and Engine No. 4 frame, block & alternator parts at Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition they will also be required to remove the coils from the stators and store them in a designated place. Both engines have been partially dismantled by the CUC plant personnel.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration.

As this is a re-bid, a Pre-Bid Conference is not considered necessary; CUC will allow Site Visit based on pre-scheduled arrangements with CUC through email. Prospective Bidders who had not participated in the previous bid (CUC-IFB-18-020) are encouraged to visit the site for familiarizing the site conditions.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-18-024: Removal and relocation of engines 8 and 4 at Power Plant No. 1"**, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 27, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 90 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are however expected to have experience and the required skill sets in similar work.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 16, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Project Manager – via email venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

PARS commends Celestial for testifying on behalf of the people of Guam

TAMUNING, Guam—After over seventeen 17 years of extensive research and active lobbying with local leaders, U.S. Congress, and the Office of the President of the United States, the Pacific Association for Radiation Survivors recently celebrates a significant accomplishment in its fight to advocate for radiation exposure compensation for the people of Guam.

PARS founder and president, Robert N. Celestial has worked tirelessly to ensure that Guam is included, as "downwinders" under Pacific Test Sites, in the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

Celestial provided testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary today as part of a panel along with other advocates from New Mexico, Arizona, and Idaho to discuss Senate Bill 197, also known as Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) Amendments of 2017. The Act would allow those who resided in Guam between 1946 and 1962 and who suffered from cancer or other listed radiation-related illnesses, to apply for compensation that would include free medical care and up to $150,000 from the remaining funds in the RECA Trust Fund.

Celestial, who founded PARS in 2002, has compiled compelling evidence that Guam and its inhabitants not only received exposure to ionizing radiation from nuclear fallout due to the multiple nuclear bombs testings' in the Marshall Islands, but also due to the contamination of U.S. Naval vessels which were decontaminated in Guam's waters off Apra Harbor and Cocos Islands Lagoon, from 1946 to 1958. Those present at the wash- down of Naval Vessels in Guam are included in RECA as onsite participants.

Excited at the culmination of the hearing, Celestial stated "I am here by the grace of God and the help of many along the way. Many of our members have passed without seeing any recognition or compensation. We will continue our efforts to honor those who have passed and to advocate for our remaining members."

In his testimony, Celestial reminded the Judiciary Committee:

"The people of Guam were exposed to nuclear fallout from the Pacific Nuclear Testing in the Marshall Islands from 1946 to 1962 when 66 Nuclear and Hydrogen bombs were detonated. It was without their knowledge and consent that throughout those years they were exposed to ionizing radiation such as Iodine 131, Strontium 90, and Cesium 137. On July 10, 2000, Congress passed the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act Amendments (PL 106-245) and in September 2002, in response to a congressional mandate (PL 107-206), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) asked the National Research Council's Board on Radiation Effects Research to convene a committee. Under congressional mandate, HRSA charged the committee to consider the issues and make recommendations, regarding three mandates which one of them being item C. "Whether other groups of people or additional geographic areas should be covered under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) Program." (2005 National Research Council).

In 2004, I was invited by Dr. Isaf Al Nabulsi Senior Director for the Board on Radiation Effects Research Committee to present oral and written testimony here in Washington D.C. at the National Academies of Science. I presented evidence and oral testimony before Dr. Preston, Dr. Evan Douple and other scientist on the BRER committee. I also included sworn statements from Navy Lt. Bert Schreiber who was the Chemical, Biological, Radiological Officer on Guam in 1952 he testified that "the Geiger counters were off the scale" in November 1952. On October 31, 1952, the first thermonuclear device, with the code name Mike, was detonated. It had a total yield of 10.4 Mt. On November 3, 1952 radiation was detected on Guam. In 2005, National Research council's final report was published "Assessment of the Scientific Information for the Radiation Exposure screening and Education Program". On page 200 "The committee initiated an independent assessment of the radiologic consequences related to the weapons an independent assessment of the radiologic consequences related to the weapons test in the Pacific to people living on Guam."

This was their conclusion, "Conclusion—As a result of its analysis, the committee concludes that Guam did receive measurable fallout from atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons in the Pacific. Residents of Guam during that period should be eligible for compensation under RECA in a way similar to that of persons considered to be downwinders." ***(PR)***

Guam vice speaker congratulates PARS

HAGÅTÑA, Guam—Vice Speaker Therese Terlaje commends the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors and their president Robert Celestial for his historic testimony today in front of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary on Senate Bill 197, also known as the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA) Amendments Act of 2017, which would include Guam as one of the downwind areas.

» Also affirms inclusion in RECA is overdue

"I congratulate Robert Celestial and the Pacific Association of Radiation Survivors and all of those who have helped them along the way, for their work and personal sacrifice in continuing to advocate for justice for Guam. These few work out of love for the benefit of many, many people on Guam who are suffering from cancer and other radiation related illness. I am very grateful, and am trying my best to ensure that we as leaders do all we can to support and continue this fight for justice, compassion, and health," Terlaje stated.

Terlaje also submitted written testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee expressing her support for S. 197. According to the U.S. Census, the population of Guam between 1940 and 1960 ranged from 22,290 to 67,044 inhabitants. This is the number of people who were exposed to radiation as downwinders during the time of nuclear testing in the Marshall Islands. (Please see the attached written testimony from Vice Speaker Terlaje.)

"It's an unsettling truth that our family members were exposed to radiation from U.S. nuclear testing, and suffer from cancer and other illnesses. The U.S. government provides free medical care and compassionate compensation to people from other jurisdictions that were exposed. Since the findings in 2005, Guam's inclusion in RECA is overdue. Compassion, medical care, and justice for the people of Guam suffering from cancer is equally warranted," Terlaje stated. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

ADMINISTRATIVE / HUMAN RESOURCE SPECIALIST

On the island of SAIPAN
Announcement # JVA18-29

DUTIES: The successful candidate will works under the general supervision of the Chief Justice and under the direct supervision of the Director of Courts under the rules promulgated by the Judicial Council and the Supreme Court. The candidate is responsible for assisting with administrative and human resource functions of the CNMI Judiciary. The candidate is expected to perform the following duties and responsibilities, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist with the processing of vacancy announcements, pre-employment screening, application requirements, set up of interview panels, post-offer procedures and related recruitment procedures and documents;
- Assist with the processing of employment documents including but not limited to Notification of Personnel Actions (NOPAs), personnel cost impact sheets, contracts and conditions, inter-office forms, and related documents;
- Assist with the tracking of employees and personnel costs, including those for wages, health and pension benefits, and other related financial impact information;
- Assist with the planning and implementation of staff training and professional development programs;
- Compile, review, and transmit information necessary for position descriptions, pay scales, and other human resource standards;
- Assist with certifications of employment history or background check;
- Assist with the drafting of physical and digital templates, forms and documents for use in meeting administrative and personnel procedures and standards;
- Draft correspondence and reports relevant to administrative and human resource functions;
- Assist with data compilation, budget and cost analysis reports;
- Review, track, and report on internal and external factors related to administrative projects and personnel processing;
- Assist with the drafts of monthly, quarterly, close-out or other standard progress reports;
- Assist with records handling and tracking of funds for administrative and payroll costs;
- Maintain and improve upon existing paper and digital filing systems related to general correspondence, administrative projects, personnel standards, and performance reports;
- Safeguard confidentiality for and monitor strict controls of administrative and personnel records;
- Develop knowledge for and maintain current updates on administrative and personnel compliance requirements and assist court personnel and partners in meeting compliance mandates;
- Monitor important dates affecting administrative and personnel projects and assist with deadline compliance;
- Adhere to local and federal document and information requirements in the course of performing administrative and personnel tasks;
- Assist in the procurement process for proposals, expenditures, and delivery of services or items;
- Assists with procedures for audits of funds, employment practices, performance, or inventory;
- Foster and maintain professional network with internal and external partners and maintain registry of contacts information;
- Provide standard administrative support for designated projects as assigned by the Director of Courts or his/her designee;
- Maintain and submit performance tracking reports to the Director of Courts or his/her designee; and
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Chief Justice.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Administrative and Human Resource Specialist must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must also satisfy one of the following: (1) Have an associate's degree from a nationally accredited college or university in liberal arts, public or business administration, business management, criminal justice, or other appropriate field and two years of experience in secretarial, human resource, legal or administrative support or related work; OR (2) four years in human resource, legal or administrative support or related field. The person must be skilled with the use of computers, internet, general office equipment, and other electronic devices standard to the justice system. Software proficiency is required, especially with Microsoft Office programs such as Word, Excel and PowerPoint. The person must have a valid CNMI driver's license and be able to operate a government vehicle'

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be $23,000 - $25,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel. (670)236-9818 • Fax. (670) 236-9702 • michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled.
Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 • Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.justice.gov.mp

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

COMPUTER SPECIALIST

Announcement # JVA18-28
On the island of SAIPAN

DUTIES: The Computer Specialist works under the general supervision of the Chief Justice and/or the Director of Court or his/her designee and under the direct supervision of the Systems Manager. The incumbent is expected to perform the following Duties and Responsibilities:

- Maintain and administer computers and other peripheral devices in a domain-based network;
- Perform troubleshooting to diagnose hardware and software issues in person, remotely and via phone;
- Coordinate with Systems Administrator, outside consultant, and/or local parts suppliers to provide the most efficient methods to resolve issues;
- Offer daily operations and systems support to personnel by responding to problems and questions;
- Provide orientation and guidance to users on how to operate new software, computer equipment;
- Provide orientation and guidance to users on how to traverse the local network and access shared data;
- Set up new workstations with computers and necessary peripheral devices;
- Install software, hardware and any subsequent upgrades;
- Ensure scheduled maintenance and data backups are performed regularly;
- Ensure security and privacy of networks and computer systems;
- Assist with maintaining user passwords and other system security measures;
- Assist with obtaining quotes for technological equipment from international and local vendors;
- Assists with data entry, document imaging and statistical reports;
- Assist with the roll out of updates to computers and other peripheral devices;
- Assist in developing and maintaining local networks in ways that optimize performance;
- Assists with server maintenance and database management; and
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Computer Specialist should have an Associate's degree in computer science, information technology, or related field plus two (2) years experience in a relevant position or any combination of education and/or experience equivalent to six (6) years in a related field or position. Bachelor's degree is preferred and relevant certifications will be an advantage.

Must have the ability to maintain and control sensitive and confidential information, maintain professional records, and uphold office policies. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid drivers' license and be able to operate a court vehicle. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS PERTINENT TO POSITION (if any):

Applicants must have excellent diagnostic and problem-solving skills with an in depth understanding of diverse computer systems, networks, internet security and IT principles. They must have the ability to communicate technical concepts effectively to a varied audience, meet deadlines and manage stress effectively in high-pressure situations. A strong sense of discretion and confidentiality

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be $21,000 - $23,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel. (670)236-9818 • Fax. (670) 236-9702 • michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled.
Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Local communities to get record $552.8M in PILT

WASHINGTON—U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke announced today that over 1,900 local governments around the country will receive $552.8 million in Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding for 2018. This is the largest amount ever allocated in the program's 40-year history. This continues to underscore the Trump Administration's commitment to local communities. A full list of funding by state and county is available at www.doi.gov/pilt.

"As a kid who grew up in northwest Montana and whose sons graduated from the same high school as I did, I know how important PILT payments are to local communities that have federal lands. These investments are one of the ways the federal government is fulfilling its role of being a good land manager and good neighbor to local communities," said Secretary Zinke. "Rural America, especially states out west with large federal land holdings, play a big part in feeding and powering the nation and also in providing recreation opportunities, but because the lands are federal, the local governments don't earn revenue from them. PILT investments often serve as critical support for local communities as they juggle planning and paying for basic services, such as public safety, fire-fighting, social services, and transportation."

PILT payments are federal payments to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to non-taxable federal lands within their boundaries. PILT payments help local governments carry out such vital services as fire-fighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and search-and-rescue operations. The payments are made annually for tax-exempt federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (all agencies of the Department of the Interior), the U.S. Forest Service (part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture), and for federal water projects and some military installations. PILT payments are one of the ways the federal government can fulfill its role of being a good neighbor to local communities.

Using a formula provided by statute, the annual PILT payments to local governments are computed based on the number of acres of federal land within each county or jurisdiction and the population of that county or jurisdiction.

Since PILT payments began in 1977, Interior has distributed approximately $8.5 billion dollars to states and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The department collects more than $9.6 billion in revenue annually from commercial activities on public lands, such as oil and gas leasing, livestock grazing and timber harvesting. A portion of these revenues is shared with states and counties. The balance is deposited in the U.S. Treasury, which in turn pays for a broad array of federal activities, including PILT funding.

Individual county payments may vary from year to year as a result of changes in acreage data, which is updated yearly by the federal agency administering the land; prior year Federal Revenue Sharing payments reported yearly by the Governor of each State; and population data, which is updated using information from the U.S. Census Bureau. Federal Revenue Sharing payments are made to local governments under programs other than PILT during the previous fiscal year, including payments such as those made under the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, the Refuge Revenue Sharing Fund, the National Forest Fund, the Taylor Grazing Act, the Mineral Leasing Act, the Federal Power Act, and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, when authorized. ***(PR)***

Bird Island Beach red-flagged

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has red-flagged Bird Island Beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this location for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from this beach contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

BECQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact BECQ at 664-8500. ***(BECQ)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to Aleaya Carmen Taimanao Bermudes. Mommy and Daddy love you so much!

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms
(Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,	**Civil Action No. 16-0222**
Plaintiff, vs. GEORGE R. RABAULIMAN,	**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT**
Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 16, 2018, at 1:30 p.m., a hearing will be heard before Judge Kenneth L. Govendo on Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment in the above-captioned matter, at the Superior Court for the CNMI, Guma Hustisia, Civic Center, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

So dated this 13th day of June, 2018.

/s/ **CLERK OF COURT**

MICHAEL N. EVANGELISTA, ESQ.
(CNMI BAR NO.: F0364)
Law Offices of Michael Norita Evangelista, LLC
D'Torres Building Garapan
P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 670-235-8060; Fax: 670-235-8070
EMAIL: mnevangelista8@gmail.com

Attorney for Petitioner
Lennie Marie K. Hermosilla

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF: Dolores Benavente Manibusan, Deceased.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0196 NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO: ALL CREDITORS AND INTERESTED CLAIMANTS

NOTICE is hereby given that Lennie Marie K. Hermosilla, of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, has filed a petition in the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for Letters of Administration and to be appointed as Administrator of the Estate of Dolores Benavente Manibusan, deceased, and to determine the heirs of the decedent. The attorney of record is Michael N. Evangelista, Esq., P.O. Box 504340, Saipan, MP 96950. The hearing on the petition is set for the 19th day of July, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. before the Judge Joseph N. Camacho. All interested persons should appear at this hearing.

All persons having any claims against the estate or against the deceased should file their claims with the Clerk of Court of the Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

Dated this 27th day of June, 2018.

/s/ Clerk of Court

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-18-019

Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced entities to supply, install, integrate and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, installation, testing, commissioning, training and handover) of (2) two complete new engine systems. Proposers must note that replacement of Engine No. 8 is the base proposal while the replacement of Engine No. 4 is an additive proposal. Each replacement Diesel Generating Plant shall be within a capacity range of 8 - 13 MW which must be supplied, installed, tested, and commissioned as an integrated system at CUC Power Plant No. 1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The solicitation seeks proposals from a legally recognized business entity authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, which has as one or more of its equity owners (principals) a qualified ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER (OEM), from which CUC intends to contract with to purchase one, and perhaps two, fully installed and commissioned turn-key engine systems that best fit CUC's power supply requirements. The Proposer must be authorized as OEM's agent to bind OEM to contractual terms including issuance of OEM's equipment warranty and certifying the installation of the works anticipated under this RFP meet OEM specifications, the Proposal, and meet or exceed all warranty requirements.

The RFP Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $500.00 (non-refundable) for one RFP package set. The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided in a CD or emailed to the registered email ID. Prospective Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **July 18, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST).** Immediately after the conference, a Site Visit to the Power Plant facility will be conducted. Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting the proposal.

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-18-019 – Supply and Services for Installation & Commissioning of 2 X 8-13 MW of Diesel Generating Plant System"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than August 23, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A *Proposal Guarantee* equal to fifteen (15%) percent of the total proposed price must accompany the proposals. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or proposal bond executed by a surety holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable

Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page:

https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

This RFP solicits services regulated by the Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing (BPL). All bidders shall possess Certificate of Authority from the BPL as contemplated in and required by NMIA ss 125-20.1-501 which provides in part that any corporation or partnership "Firm," whether organized under the Law of the CNMI or other jurisdiction, hereafter offering to engage or engaging in the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, or landscape architecture in the Commonwealth must have a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) issued by the Board. All firms must have a valid Certificate of Authorization before advertising to offer or offer professional engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architectural services in the CNMI. All bids submitted shall be accompanied by a certificate of authority in the name of the OEM submitting the bid.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Christopher Timmons, Assistant Attorney General, via email address christopher_timmons@cnmioag.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN, JR.
Purchasing Administrator

ROBERT TENORIO TORRES, F0197
ATTORNEY AT LAW
PLATA DRIVE, WHISPERING PALMS (CHALAN KIYA)
P.O. BOX 503758 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950
TELEPHONE: (670) 234-7859
FACSIMILE: (670) 234-5749

CIVILLE & TANG, PLLC
SIRENA PEREZ CASSIDY, F0338
330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE, SUITE 200
HAGATNA, GUAM 96910
TELEPHONE: (671) 472-8869/69
FACSIMILE: (671) 477-2511

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANKS (GUAM), INC., Plaintiff, vs. JESUS T. LIZAMA dba VICTORIA HOTEL, J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., and the BANK OF GUAM, Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 00-0296 D (THIRD AMENDED) NOTICE OF AUCTION and JUDICIAL SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Amended Judgment made and entered in the above titled action on 30th day of January, 2001, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC. ("ANZ"), in the above titled action from Defendants JESUS T. LIZAMA DBA VICTORIA HOTEL AND J&JEV ENTERPRISES, INC., as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property filed on February 13, 2013, pursuant to 7 CMC § 4537(e) the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the **20th day of July, 2018 at 10 a.m.,** at Victoria Hotel, located on Micro Beach Rd, Garapan, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

PARCELS 1 & 2:

a. LOT 001 D 13, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 1), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

b. LOT 001 D 14, (formerly known as Block 3, Lot 2), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 D 00, the original of which was registered 30 SEP 70 as Document No. 512 at Land Registry, Saipan.

And immediately thereafter, the sale of the following parcel of property:

PARCEL 3:

c. TRACT 21732-9, part of original Tract 21732-R1, AH 140), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 2085/84, the original of which was recorded 08 AUG 84 as Document No. 84-1439 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a. Withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.

b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

c. To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. All the property listed in this notice shall be sold to the highest bidder at a public auction, without any warranty being given, express or implied, with respect to the title, possession, and encumbrances, to satisfy the amount due to Plaintiff ANZ GUAM, INC. on the date of the sale under the Amended Judgment as prescribed in the Order Directing Foreclosure Sale of Mortgaged Property. ANZ GUAM, INC. reserves the right to bid all or part of the amount due at the time of the sale.

3. Payment. A deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by the successful bidder. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or money order. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 20% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Plaintiff, ANZ GUAM, INC., formerly known as CITIZENS SECURITY BANK (GUAM), INC.

4. Inspection. Interested bidders may inspect the property at the following times:

Parcels 1 & 2: June 22, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.
Parcel 3: June 29, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

5. Change of Terms. ANZ GUAM, INC., reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

6. No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 12th day of June, 2018.

/S/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Vendors set for tasty Liberation Day opening

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Workers from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and 2018 Liberation Day committee prepare for the opening of the grounds on June 29, 2018.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Finishing touches are put on the welcoming arch at the Liberation Day grounds at Garapan Fishing Base on June 28, 2018. The festivities will run from June 29 to July 7, 2018, at 6pm nightly.

Seventeen food and drink vendors are set to tantalize the taste buds at today's (June 29) opening of the Liberation Day festivities at Garapan Fishing Base.

The festival grounds open at 6pm with an opening ceremony, and the evening's entertainment will include Hopwood Dance Music Productions Empire at 7:30pm, CAB Dancers at 8:30pm, Man Antigu at 9pm, Refaluwasch Warriors at 9:30pm, and Micro Mix at 10pm.

Food and drink vendors this year include Fruittie Smoothies, Rose BBQ Cheap Cuts, Champ's Snowball, J-far Corp, Saipan Brewing, Salty's, Homemade Kitchen, Island Grindz, Sierra's Pearl Shake, Furusato, MarPac, Ina's Kitchen, Matty's, Vi-Lyn's BBQ, Terry's Snack Bar, Cups and Rolls Pan Fried Ice Cream, and Fong's Catering.

The festival will also include retail vendors Natasha, Anew Excel International, Squish and Slime, Island Flowers & Novelties, Maranatha, E&J Retail, Che'lu, E&J Retail, S-Mart, Rita's Accessories, U2 Collection and Gift, Tidal Wave Slide, and local artists.

The festivities, presented by the mayor's office and the 2018 Liberation Day Committee, will be held through July 7, 2018, from 6pm to 10pm (closing at 11pm on Fridays and Saturdays). The celebration will also include games and BINGO. This year's Liberation Day theme is "Sea to Shining Sea," celebrating the International Year of the Coral Reef and the islands' oceanic heritage and cultures.

The opening ceremony on Friday will include remarks by Saipan Mayor David Apatang, Liberation Day Committee president Louis Rodgers, and 2018 Liberation Day Committee chair Joe E. Ayuyu, Jr.; and the introduction of this year's Royal Court.

Over 50 marching units and floats have signed up for the Liberation Day parade on July 4 at 3pm. The parade will start at National Office Supply and proceed along Beach Road to the festival grounds. Cash prizes will be awarded to the best floats: $4,000 for first place, $3,000 for second place, $2,000 for third place, and $1,000 for fourth place.

Title sponsors this year are: Marianas Visitors Authority, Imperial Pacific International, Skywalker Group, Ana. Corp., McDonald's of Saipan, Tournament of Champions, IT&E/IP&E, Triple J Ent., Marianas Variety, Tan Holdings Corp., Hyatt Regency Saipan, The Shack, MATSON, Coca-cola/Foremost, and Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

Additional sponsors include Bridge Capital, LLC., J.C. Tenorio Ent., Korean Community of Saipan, VaprSpot, P.D.I., Bank of Guam, DOCOMO Pacific, Roil Soil, Chong's Corp., Saipan Travel, Saipan Ice and Water Co., Saipan Shipping Company, I Love Saipan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Bank of Hawaii, Cha. Coral Ocean Golf Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, KKMP, KCNM-KZMI, G4S, Spicy Thai, MyCapitures, Bank of Saipan, Atkins Kroll, Joeten Superstore, Bank of Saipan, Aqua Resort Club, Athlete's Foot, Joeten Supermarket, AA Enterprises; Bank Pacific, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Moylan's Insurance, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan World Resort, Kanoa Resort, Borderline, American President Lines, Island Apparel, Atkins Kroll, AON Insurance, Calvo's Insurance, Delta Management Corp., First Hawaiian Bank, Hard Rock Café Saipan, Java Joe's, Saipan Stevedore, Saipan World Resort, Take Care Insurance, LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort, Kingfisher Golf Links, All-Star Sporting Goods, Joeten Motors, and the Commonwealth Council for Arts & Culture.

Supporters include CNMI Office of the Governor, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Dept. of Fire & Emergency Services, Dept. of Public Safety, Div. of Sanitation, Alcoholic Beverage & Tobacco Control, Bureau of Environment Health, Hotel Asso. of the Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaiian Rock Products, Herman's Modern Bakery, IP&E, Aon Insurance, Marianas Institute of Filipino CPAs and Accountants, and Dept. of Public Lands.

For more information, visit www.saipanmayor.net or www.facebook.com/CNMI-LiberationDay, or call the Office of the Mayor of Saipan at (670) 234-6208.

Liberation Day is celebrated annually in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas to mark the release in 1946 of Saipan and Tinian residents from World War II civilian camps.

Following the invasion of the islands by U.S. forces on June 15, 1944, the large civilian population was held by the U.S. military in three camps: Camp Susupe and Camp Chalan Kanoa on Saipan and Camp Chulu on Tinian.

Upon the end of the war, island residents were granted increasing allowance under guard to leave the camps during the day for subsistence farming and other activities, receiving full liberty to return to their homes permanently with the closure of the camps on July 4,1946. Liberation Day is observed annually in the CNMI with a parade and other patriotic and cultural festivities on July 4, coinciding with America's Independence Day. ***(PR)***

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Pay to the order of Guam Nurses Association $ 9,000.00
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CULTURAL NIGHT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bank of Guam hosted the American Pacific Nursing Leaders' Council Cultural Night yesterday, June 28, at the Hyatt Regency Guam. From left, Glynis Almonte, RN, BSN, executive director, Guam Nurses Association; Rose Grino, RN, BSN, Guam Nurses Association; Joaquin P.L.G. Cook, interim president and chief executive officer, Bank of Guam; and Maria Eugenia H. Leon Guerrero, executive vice president, Retail and Card Services, Bank of Guam

Business

Atlantic City welcomes 2 closed casinos back to life

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)—Many sweet rides have pulled up to Atlantic City casinos over the years, but this one was the King.

Joe Emanuele, whose vast portfolio at Hard Rock International includes finding and securing music memorabilia, had located Elvis Presley's Rolls Royce, bought it at an auction and drove it to the Atlantic City casino whose opening Hard Rock will celebrate Thursday morning.

It is one of two shuttered casinos that reopened Wednesday afternoon, ahead of schedule, after being cleared to do so by New Jersey gambling regulators. Hard Rock, the former Trump Taj Mahal, and the Ocean Resort Casino, the former Revel, are both having grand opening ceremonies Thursday.

At 11 a.m., Hard Rock will host a mass guitar smash on the Boardwalk. At 1 p.m., Ocean Resort will have a ribbon-cutting.

After a brutal two-year stretch in which five of its 12 casinos closed, Atlantic City now has nine. The reopenings have generated cautious optimism that better days are ahead for the seaside gambling resort that once was the only place in America outside Nevada with casinos, but which has struggled mightily as gambling spread in states all around it.

Elvis's car is one of the first things patrons see after they pass underneath the giant replica of a Gibson Les Paul electric guitar (cherry sunburst model) at the casino's front entrance.

"I've been an Elvis fan forever," Emanuele said. Driving (very carefully, with a police escort) from a warehouse in nearby Pleasantville, New Jersey, to the casino site, Emanuele parked his derriere in the same leather seat that once supported the King of rock 'n' roll.

"You feel a little bit of prestige behind the wheel," he said. "This is Elvis's car that he picked the Beatles up in when they first came to Los Angeles."

The car is part of a vast trove of memorabilia on display at the Hard Rock. There are gowns worn by Stevie Nicks and Whitney Houston, and guitars played by Roy Orbison, Bob Dylan and Katy Perry. There's a leather stage outfit worn by Aerosmith lead guitarist Joe Perry.

There's even a New Jersey memorabilia room, including the handwritten lyrics to "Dreaming" by Blondie's Debbie Harry (a Hawthorne native,) along with stuff from Bon Jovi, Wyclef Jean, Southside Johnny, and a Western Union telegram confirming a $20,000 payment for Ray Charles to perform a concert on Atlantic City's Steel Pier in 1978. And no one forgot the Chairman of the Board; Frank Sinatra has a presence there, too.

Those who remember the heavy-handed decorating taste of Donald and Ivana Trump from the Taj Mahal days won't recognize the place: The row after row of chandeliers dominating the view as patrons would ride the main escalator down to the casino floor are gone, supplanted by a giant silver illuminated guitar suspended from the ceiling. Video screens surrounding the escalators play clips of Bruce Springsteen, Eric Clapton, Nirvana and Johnny Cash as customers descend to the casino floor.

At the Ocean Resort, owner Bruce Deifik has fixed most of what Revel's former customers said they didn't like about the place. It now allows smoking, will have a buffet within a few months, has reconfigured the casino floor to make it easier to get around, and glass safety barriers have been installed on the main escalator that made many patrons uncomfortable.

Korean Air chair questioned on suspicion of embezzlement

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Korean Air's chairman apologized Thursday before being questioned by prosecutors investigating alleged wrongdoing by him and his family, deepening woes at South Korea's largest airline company.

Cho Yang-ho, chair and chief executive of Korean Air Lines Co., said "sorry" and bowed his head before entering a Seoul prosecutors' office. He said he will fully collaborate with the investigation.

Cho joins his wife and two daughters who were questioned by authorities since April on a variety of charges including tax evasions, obstruction of business and violating an immigration law.

The 69-year-old leader at the South Korean flag carrier is suspected of embezzlement and breach of trust. Local media said prosecutors are also looking into Cho's alleged evasion of inheritance taxes when he received millions of dollars in assets from his late father and founder of Hanjin, Korean Air's parent group. An official at a Seoul prosecutors' office did not confirm the reports. Korean Air declined to comment on the allegations.

Korean Air employees have taken to the streets to demand Cho's resignation as public anger mounted against the family's behaviors.

Hyun-min, the younger of Cho's two daughters, was investigated for allegedly hurling a cup of water during a business meeting. Hyun-ah, the older daughter of Cho, was questioned by South Korean immigration officials on suspicion she unlawfully hired housekeepers from the Philippines. Hyun-ah won global notoriety in 2014 when she delayed a Korean Air flight because she got angry over the way nuts were served. She was released from jail in South Korea in May 2015 after the top court suspended her sentence over the case. She returned to leadership briefly before resigning again this year.

Immigration officials also investigated their mother, Lee Myeong-hee, suspecting that she unlawfully recruited and hired about 10 to 20 housekeepers from the Philippines by documenting them as Korean Air trainees. Under South Korean law, foreign nationals must obtain visas given to marriage migrants or people of Korean heritage to work as housekeepers.

The disgraced Korean Air family touched off anger among South Koreans critical of the unruly behaviors by their business elites that control the big conglomerates dominating the economy. While families like Cho have a minority stake in publicly traded companies, they have often acted like emperors and exercised outsized influence over the businesses founded by their father or grandfather.

South Korea's President Moon Jae-in took office in 2017 on campaigns to rein in "chaebol," as the family-controlled business conglomerates are known. His predecessor was impeached over political corruption scandals involving chaebol like Samsung and Lotte.

Nation

Immigrant mom heads to court to get her son back

CHICAGO (AP)—When Lidia Karine Souza would call her 9-year-old son — allowed just 20 minutes per week — he would beg his mom though tears to do everything in her power to get him out of U.S. government custody and back to her.

The 27-year-old Brazilian mother, who is seeking asylum, has been trying with all her might.

She searched for weeks to find Diogo after the two were separated at the border in late May. When she was released June 9 from a Texas facility, she filled out nearly 40 pages of documents that U.S. officials told her were required to regain custody.

Then they told her that the rules had changed and that she needed any family members living with her in the United States to be fingerprinted and still more documents. This was not the safety she had sought for herself and her son. This was not the American dream.

"This ... is a nightmare," she said, sitting in a suburban Chicago hotel, still waiting to be reunited with Diogo, from whom she'd never spent more than a week apart before this.

On Tuesday, Souza's attorneys filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration to demand her son be immediately released. He has spent four weeks at a government-contracted shelter in Chicago, much of it alone in a room, quarantined with chicken pox. He spent his 9th birthday on Monday without his mom.

AP

In this Tuesday, June 26, 2018 photo provided by paralegal Luana Mazon, Lidia Karine Souza, 27, hugs her 9-year-old son Diogo De Olivera Filho as Souza visited her son for the first time since they were separated at the U.S.-Mexico border in late May.

Her lawyers said they will be going forward with an emergency hearing Thursday morning in U.S. District Court in Chicago despite a federal judge's order forcing the government to reunite more than 2,000 children with their families within 30 days, or 14 days in the case of those younger than 5.

Jesse Bless, an attorney from Jeff Goldman Immigration in Boston, one of two firms representing Souza, said he had trouble getting excited over Tuesday's injunction because the government could still delay further. "We struggle to trust at this point," he said.

For days and weeks now, some of the hundreds of parents separated from their children at the Mexican border by the Trump administration have been battling one of the world's most complex immigration systems to find their youngsters and get them back.

For many, it has been a lopsided battle, and a frustrating and heartbreaking one. Most do not speak English. Many know nothing about their children's whereabouts. And some say their calls to the government's 1-800 information hotline have gone unanswered.

Battle lines already being drawn on Kennedy's successor

WASHINGTON (AP)—Justice Anthony Kennedy's retirement is setting off a momentous confirmation battle for President Donald Trump's next Supreme Court nominee that is certain to consume the Senate, inflame partisan tensions and shape the outcome of the midterm elections.

All sides quickly mobilized Wednesday after Kennedy — a singular voice on the court whose votes have decided issues on abortion, affirmative action, gay rights, guns, campaign finance and voting rights — sent shockwaves through Washington by announcing his retirement plans.

Trump said he would start the effort to replace Kennedy "immediately" and would pick from a list of 25 names that he updated last year. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell declared that the Senate "will vote to confirm Justice Kennedy's successor this fall."

With Kennedy's departure, Republicans have a longed-for opportunity to tip the balance of the court. It already has four justices picked by Democratic presidents and four picked by Republicans, so Trump's pick could shift the ideological balance toward conservatives for years to come.

Republicans also have a chance to make judicial nominees a top campaign issue, which could help motivate conservatives and evangelicals to vote in November. The playbook worked in 2016, when Republicans rallied around McConnell's successful block of then-President Barack Obama's nominee to the court, Merrick Garland.

If Republicans unite behind Trump's selection, there's little that Democrats can do to stop it. Republicans changed the Senate rules last year so that Supreme Court nominees cannot be filibustered, meaning only 51 votes will be required to confirm.

Last year, Trump's first nominee to the court, Neil Gorsuch, was confirmed 54-45, with three Democrats voting in favor. Those Democrats — Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia, Sen. Joe Donnelly of Indiana and Sen. Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota— are facing difficult re-election races and could find it difficult to oppose the president's second pick.

But while Republicans are aiming for speedy action, Democrats quickly argued that any decision should be put on hold until after midterm elections, citing McConnell's 2016 moves. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said it would be the "height of hypocrisy" to vote sooner.

He said the voices of millions of Americans heading to the polls this fall "deserve to be heard."

McConnell refused to consider Garland because it was a presidential election year. He said the seat should be left open for the next president to fill.

Asia

US, UK teams join Thailand's search for 13 missing in cave

MAE SAI, Thailand (AP)—A U.S. military team and British cave experts joined the search in northern Thailand for 12 boys and their soccer coach missing for five days inside a cave being flooded by near-constant rains.

A Thai army general coordinating the rescue said Thursday morning that overnight rain had raised water levels again and authorities switched off power and water pumps for fear of electrical hazards. Power had just been installed a few days earlier to provide lights and better communications and pump out water.

Maj. Gen. Bancha Duriyapat said Thai navy SEALs, U.K. cave-diving experts and a U.S. military team were inside the cave and rescuers were continuing to work despite the rain and setbacks.

At a morning briefing between the Thai SEALs and the U.S. team, the Thais explained that water levels had been rising overnight at a rate of about 15 centimeters (6 inches) per hour, complicating efforts to squeeze through tight passages, some of which require divers to contort their bodies around L-shaped bends.

The missing boys and coach entered the Tham Luang Nang Non cave in Chiang Rai province on Saturday afternoon. The cave complex extends several kilometers (miles) with narrow passageways and uneven ground and is known to flood severely in rainy season.

Still, authorities have expressed hope there are dry places on higher ground within the cave where the group may be able to wait.

Deputy national police chief Wirachai Songmetta said he would join more than 600 rescuers above ground trying to find shafts that might be possible entrances into the cave.

AP

Rescue personnel walk out of the entrance to a cave complex where it's believed that 12 soccer team members and their coach went missing, Thursday, June 28, 2018, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai province, in northern Thailand.

The few shafts found so far did not provide access.

"We won't give up. That's the key here," he said as he got into a vehicle that was part of a convoy carrying rescuers.

U.S. Indo-Pacific Command in Hawaii confirmed a U.S. team of about 30 people was sent to assist the search. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Nicole Schwegman said Wednesday that a search and rescue team had been sent at the request of Thailand's government.

Some parents of the missing children have been spending the nights in tents outside the cave entrance as the rain poured. On Thursday morning, a Buddhist monk led a prayer for a small group of relatives, many of them red-eyed and crying during the prayer.

Medics sat in a tent nearby, and bicycles, backpacks and soccer cleats the boys left behind remained at the entrance.

Anmar Mirza, national coordinator of the National Cave Rescue Commission in the U.S. and editor of the book Manual of U.S. Cave Rescue Techniques, said that in a situation like this it would seem there were only two things that could be done: pump the water down and search for alternative entrances.

If there were a high-quality map, drilling would be another possibility, but that is extremely difficult for a number of reasons and could also take days to weeks, he said, adding that it was important not to take needless risks.

Mirza said the boys' youth and health is to their advantage and if the cave is not too cold, they should be able to survive four to five days with no water and a month or more with water but no food.

"The biggest concern is them getting desperate and trying to enter swift moving water," he said.

Mattis says US will keep current troop levels in South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis reassured South Korea on Thursday that the United States will maintain its current number of troops on the Korean Peninsula.

"The U.S. commitment to the Republic of Korea remains ironclad, and the U.S. will continue to use the full range of diplomatic and military capabilities to uphold this commitment," he told Defense Minister Song Young-moo.

Mattis met with Song during a brief stopover on his way from China to Japan.

The U.S. has 28,500 troops stationed in South Korea.

His stop carried a clear message of reassurance to South Korea following the sudden cancellation of a major joint military exercise planned for later this summer.

Mattis said the U.S. commitment includes keeping "current U.S. force levels" on the peninsula.

The military exercise was cancelled after President Donald Trump's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

Song said Kim's separate meetings with Trump and with South Korean President Moon Jae-in have laid the foundation for a permanent peace on the Korean Peninsula.

"If North Korea maintains its commitment to denuclearization and proves its willingness with actions, we will continue to devise measures to build mutual trust and establish peace," he said.

World

IN CONFLICTS WORLDWIDE

UN: 10K children killed, maimed

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—More than 10,000 children were killed or maimed amid armed conflicts worldwide last year, while others were raped, forced to serve as soldiers or caught in attacks on schools and hospitals, a United Nations report said Wednesday.

A total of more than 21,000 violations of children's rights were reported in 2017 — a sharp increase from the previous year, according to the annual "Children and Armed Conflict" report.

The U.N. blames a U.S.-backed Arab coalition fighting in Yemen for at least half of the more than 1,300 child deaths or injuries recorded in that poor nation. They were victims of aerial and ground attacks by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates on Houthi rebels opposed to Yemen's internationally recognized government.

Among the casualties tallied in the report were child soldiers as young as 11 fighting in Yemen's civil war and in other countries, the U.N. said.

"The point is, these kids should not be treated like children of a lesser God; they deserve the same rights as every kid to live their lives at least meaningfully and to be given a chance at recovery," said Virginia Gamba, the U.N. special representative for children and armed conflict.

She said the report left U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres feeling "outraged."

The 21,000 violations of children's rights included 10,000 who were slain or maimed, especially in Iraq, Myanmar, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen, the report said.

The total was a dramatic increase from 15,500 such cases counted in 2016. "The secretary-general is outraged at this number, a significant increase compared to previous years," said his spokesman, Stephane Dujarric.

Among the report's findings:

■ Almost half the 881 verified child casualties in Nigeria resulted from suicide attacks, including the use of children as human bombs. Over 1,900 children were detained because of their or their parents' alleged association with the Boko Haram militant organization.

■ At least 1,036 children were held in Iraqi detention facilities on national security-related charges, mostly for their alleged association with the Islamic State group.

■ 1,221 children were recruited and used as soldiers in South Sudan.

■ The al-Shabab extremist group in Somalia allegedly abducted more than 1,600 children, some recruited and armed and others who became victims of sexual violence.

■ Children in Myanmar, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen were prevented from receiving life-saving support.

■ Syrian children were trapped in besieged areas amid deteriorating living conditions.

Gamba said government forces in various nations were responsible for about 9,000 violations.

"The report details the unspeakable violence children have been faced with, and shows how in too many conflict situations, parties to conflict have an utter disregard for any measures that could contribute to shielding the most vulnerable from the impact of war," Gamba said.

Mexicans want to throw out status quo in presidential vote

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexicans fed up with corruption and violence say their country is poised for a historic transformation in Sunday's presidential election, while others fear the vote will bring a freefall into populism and autocratic rule.

The lightning rod for such divergent opinions is frontrunner Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, the once-fiery leftist who has moderated his rhetoric and sought alliances across the political spectrum after two unsuccessful presidential runs and having led massive protests alleging electoral fraud.

Despite his new image, the 64-year-old candidate universally called AMLO still appears to trust more in his own sense of mission than in the rules of modern economics and still vows to wrest control of the country back from the "mafia of power" that he has railed against for decades.

Such is the level of discontent with Mexico's political status quo, historically high homicide rates and rampant corruption that even his rivals are trying to convince voters that they represent "real change," while simultaneously warning that a Lopez Obrador win would herald a Venezuela-like era of economic collapse and authoritarian rule.

"What people have set as the priority in this election is no more of the same," said economics graduate Rogelio Salgado, 30, who plans to vote for Lopez Obrador. "The point is to vote them all out of office, without exception."

Salgado runs down the failures attributed to the outgoing government of President Enrique Pena Nieto — low economic growth, murderous gangs and a nonfunctional legal system. "Who wants a continuation of this? People are fed up," he says.

Lopez Obrador holds a lead of 20 points or more in most polls. But No. 2 Ricardo Anaya — a tech-savvy young conservative politician running for a right-left coalition — hopes people who fear Lopez Obrador will flock to him.

Some will, like Alfonso Ulloa, 33, a natural gas specialist at a government energy agency. Ulloa has worked on Mexico's effort to open its state-owned energy sector, including projects to import cheap natural gas from the United States, and fears Lopez Obrador may cancel such economically important projects.

"I am going to vote for whoever is in second place, to take a bit of strength away from him," Ulloa says of Lopez Obrador. "The important thing is keeping the economy running, and I am afraid Lopez Obrador will screw it up."

Running third for the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party is Jose Antonio Meade, who promises a steady hand and experience. That counts for something in a country that faces constant, unpredictable challenges from U.S. President Donald Trump. Meade is also counting on the well-oiled, get-out-the-vote machine of the nearly 90-year-old party, which has spent a total of 77 years in power.

Life & Style

AP
Joe Jackson, who once had his own dreams of success, died Wednesday in Las Vegas at the age of 89.

Joe Jackson
turned his children into stars, but at a price

NEW YORK (AP)—Joe Jackson once had his own dreams of success. He tried to be a boxer and then played guitar with a group called The Falcons. But he realized early on that there was an overwhelming pool of musical talent in his children, particularly a little bright-eyed boy named Michael.

He channeled his ambition through them, creating one of the greatest pop vocal groups, The Jackson Five, and launched the career of one of entertainment's greatest legends in Michael Jackson, as well as another superstar talent, daughter Janet.

Yet the legacy of Jackson, who died Wednesday in Las Vegas at the age of 89, was steeped not only in the brilliant guidance of his children into the world's premiere entertainment dynasty, but the iron fist with which he did it. Michael described beatings with the switch of a tree branch, and a fear so great of his father that he would sometimes vomit at the sight of him. His children called him Joseph — they weren't allowed to call him by fatherly terms.

"You call me Joseph,'" Janet Jackson recalled her father telling her once when she called him dad. "I'm Joseph to you."

By the time they were all adults, his children severed professional ties to him, preferring to let others guide the careers he once nurtured.

Still, in times of turmoil, it was Joe that they continued to turn to. When Michael Jackson stood trial on allegations that he sexually abused a child (he was acquitted), it was Joe Jackson who was at his side on most days. Janet Jackson rationalized that her father wanted the best for his children, even if he didn't go about it the right way.

And La Toya Jackson, who once accused her father of physical and sexual abuse, later blamed her abusive former husband for coercing her to say it. In later years, relished her time with her father.

On Wednesday, she delivered a loving tribute to him.

"I will always love you! You gave us strength, you made us one of the most famous families in the world. I am extremely appreciative of that, I will never forget our moments together and how you told me how much you cared," she wrote on Twitter.

Joseph Walter Jackson was born in Fountain Hill, Arkansas, on July 26, 1928. He was the eldest of four children to a high school teacher and a house wife. When he was 12, his parents split and he moved with his father to Oakland, California. At 18, he moved to Indiana to live near his mother in East Chicago.

It was in Indiana that he met and married Katherine Scruse, with whom he settled in Gary. He worked as a welder and crane operator, sometimes holding as many as three jobs at a time to support his family.

He abandoned his musical ambitions in part because of his burgeoning brood, which would eventually swell to include nine children — Rebbie, Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, La Toya, Marlon, Michael, Randy and youngest sister Janet — all living in a three-room house in Gary. (A 10th child, Brandon, was stillborn.) He kept his guitar — but made it clear it was off limits to anyone but him.

His children didn't listen. One day, the older brothers broke a string on the beloved guitar, as Michael Jackson described in his autobiography "Moonwalk." Fearing a beating, Tito Jackson hid in fear, but when his father demanded he show what he could do with the guitar, he did — and Joe Jackson was awed. And a musical group was born.

Michael joined the group at age 8, and was its showstopper from the beginning. A bundle of energy with a high-pitched voice, amazing dance moves and a smile that wouldn't quit, he quickly became the lead singer. His father invested in professional equipment for the children, booked tour dates and became their manager. That eventually led to a contract with Motown Records for his five oldest boys, a deal that launched them into superstardom with their bubblegum pop-soul sound.

Years later, he helped maneuver their exit from Motown to Epic Records when he felt that the legendary label was stifling his sons' creativity. They became The Jacksons, with Jermaine staying with Motown and brother Randy joining the group. They eventually wrote their own music, leading to Michael Jackson's growth as a singer-songwriter.

Michael Jackson credited his father with making sure his children weren't cheated by industry vultures, and noted that unlike some child stars, his parents didn't take their children's money to enrich themselves.

"I'd say we're among a fortunate few artists who walked away from a childhood in the business with anything substantial — money, real estate, other investments. My father set all these up for us," Jackson wrote in his 1988 autobiography. "But still I don't know him, and that's sad for a son who hungers to understand his own father. He's still a mystery to me and may always be one."

The relationship with many of his children never improved. Janet Jackson said in a CNN interview in 2011 that she rarely spoke to her father, and by adulthood, they had severed ties with Jackson as their manager.

When Michael Jackson died of an overdose of the anesthetic propofol in 2009, he had been estranged from his father, and his bodyguards recall not allowing Joe Jackson in when he attempted to see the superstar at his estate.

Joe was not mentioned in Michael's will. Jackson only provided for his three children and mother Katherine, who was named as the children's guardian. That led Joe Jackson to wage a fruitless legal war seeking compensation from various entities.

In his own autobiography, Jackson acknowledged being a stern parent, saying he believed it was the only way to prepare his children for the tough world of show business. But he denied many of the claims of physical abuse.

No longer involved in his children's careers, Joseph Jackson launched a boot camp for aspiring hip-hop artists, promoting lyrics without vulgarity and sponsoring competitions for young artists from across the country. He spent most of his time at a home in Las Vegas and traveled the country auditioning talent for the competition.

"He was never given the credit he deserved," the Rev. Al Sharpton wrote on Twitter following the death. "He influenced the world of music with the Jackson 5, Michael Jackson, Janet Jackson and others. May history correct his legacy."

Jackson, a green-eyed dandy who wore a pencil-thin mustache and huge diamond pinky ring, faced allegations by his wife of infidelity. She accused him of fathering a child by another woman — a daughter named Joh'Vonnie Jackson. Katherine filed for divorce twice but never followed through.

"We just let our troubles die out," Joseph Jackson said in 1988, following a reconciliation. "We survived. We love each other, and we have children. That's why we're together."

The family also came together in 2010, when Michael's physician, Conrad Murray, stood trial on Michael's overdose death. Joseph, Katherine and several of Michael's siblings watched as Murray was convicted of involuntary manslaughter, a verdict that provided some comfort for the family.

While his death drew plenty of tributes, others criticized the Jackson patriarch for his abusive behavior.

Reaction to death of Jackson family patriarch Joe Jackson

Reaction to the death of Joseph Jackson, the patriarch of musical Jackson family, who died Wednesday at age 89.

■■■

"I will always love you! You gave us strength, you made us one of the most famous families in the world. I am extremely appreciative of that, I will never forget our moments together and how you told me how much you cared. #RIP Joe Jackson," **La Toya Jackson** wrote on Twitter.

"Disgusted by some of the comments I'm reading about my grandpa Joe by those who didn't even know him. Please don't just regurgitate what you were spoon fed by the press. Joe was loved by our ENTIRE family and our hearts are in pain. Let us grieve without the nastiness.#ripthehawk," tweeted **Taj Jackson,** the son of Tito Jackson.

"I remember back when he brought his talented kids to Motown. I could see that they were well disciplined, and that he and his wife, Katherine, had instilled in them a very strong work ethic. Without Joe 's early commitment to his family, the world may have never experienced the musical gift of the Jackson 5 and the world's greatest entertainer, Michael Jackson," Motown founder **Barry Gordy** wrote in a statement.

"Joe Jackson, brother beloved, patriarch & creator of one of the most talented American musical dynasties. We will remember him as long as his family's music plays. Offering prayers and condolences to the Jackson family. #RIP #NeverCanSayGoodbye #JoeJackson," **Rev. Jesse Jackson** posted on Twitter.

"R.I.P. joe Jackson the legend we will never forget," rapper and Oscar-winning songwriter Juicy J tweeted.

"#JoeJackson passed at 89 as the patriarch of a family that has mainstreamed our culture. He was never given the credit he deserved. He influenced the world of music with the Jackson 5, Michael Jackson, Janet Jackson and others. May history correct his legacy," tweeted the **Rev. Al Sharpton.**

"I worked with Joe Jackson both on some of our Michael Jackson appearances, and equally with Janet when we brought her to FAME to play Cleo in 1984. With Janet, both he and Katharine spent a great deal of time on the FAME set with us and what struck me was the love and pride they had in all of their kids, but particularly Michael and Janet," **Ken Ehrlich**, who produces the Grammys and other TV specials, said in a statement. "Joe was always pretty clear on what he wanted, and what he wanted wasn't always easy to deliver, but certainly appreciated his directness, and learned a lot from him. Although he and Michael will always be linked in my mind, he was the patriarch of one of music's true dynasties, and he will be missed. My thoughts go out to the entire Jackson family."

Fans throng Florida stadium, mourn slain rapper XXXTentacion

AP

Anneyah Lawson, 14, of St. Petersburg, Fla., holds up a sweatshirt with an image of slain rapper XXXTentacion, before his memorial on Wednesday, June 27, 2018, in Sunrise, Fla.

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—Loudspeakers blasted songs by the late rapper XXXTentacion as thousands of fans chanting his lyrics lined up for hours at a Florida stadium to see the performer laid out in a casket, two braids flowing over the side.

XXXTentacion was gunned down last week at the age of 20 in what police said was an apparent robbery. His sudden death shocked fans and unleashed praise for a rapper described as both a gift and troubled figure in the world of music.

XXXTentacion, who sported dreadlocks and facial tattoos and who pronounced his name "Ex ex ex ten-ta-see-YAWN," was a platinum-selling rising star who tackled issues including prejudice and depression in his songs. He also drew criticism over bad behavior and multiple arrests, including charges that he severely beat and abused his girlfriend.

On Wednesday, security guards flanked the casket, which was surrounded by black roses and silver leaves as a row of spotlights lit the stage at the 20,000-seat BB&T Center in Sunrise, Florida. Family members and friends gathered in a roped-off area and wore black T-shirts that said "Bad" on front and "No more pain" on the back.

The somber crowd grew rowdy as popular songs came on and many started jumping and raising their hands in the air as they shouted lyrics. On the way into the arena as well as on stage near the casket, many fans wept openly, held hands and hugged each other.

A fan who identified himself as Choice Bison said on his way in that XXXTentacion stood for hope and energy.

"What was his gift? Fearlessness. Fearlessness," Bison said. "As people, we are always wondering what people are thinking about us. And he just had a beautiful ability to not care what anybody was saying, to not care what anybody was thinking and give us his authentic self."

The performer was shot while leaving a South Florida motorcycle shop in his luxury electric sports car in what police said was an apparent robbery. Police have arrested one suspect and on Wednesday identified another man as person of interest.

Another fan, Andrew Cusumano, said it was sad that XXXTentacion's life was cut short at the start of his career.

"I listened to him almost every day for the last 2 years. He was just someone I saw a lot of potential in and was wanting to follow his career," Cusumano said. "I thought he would be around in the industry for a long time, and you know I watched all his videos."

Meanwhile, the investigation into the rapper's death continues.

Dedrick Williams, 22, was arrested last week and charged with the rapper's slaying. He has not yet entered a plea.

The Broward Sheriff's Office said Wednesday that detectives want to question another man, 22-year-old Robert Allen, about his knowledge of the slaying. Investigators released photos of Allen, including one taken the day XXXTentacion was slain. Allen has not been charged with any crime.

Authorities say in an affidavit that two armed men wearing masks — one black, one red — got out of an SUV that was blocking the rapper's luxury car outside the Riva Motorsports motorcycle shop. After a struggle, XXXTentacion was shot by at least one of the men, who took a small bag from his car and fled in a vehicle detectives later recovered.

Following his death, XXXTentacion topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart with "Sad!" and his two albums have landed in the Top 10.

Billboard reports that the rapper-singer's song originally peaked at No. 7, but jumped back this week from No. 52 to No. 1, supplanting Drake's "Nice for What."

Jury: Dr. Dre's Beats headphones owes ex-partner $25 million

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A jury on Wednesday found that Dr. Dre, music mogul Jimmy Iovine and their headphone company Beats Electronics LLC owe a former partner $25.2 million in royalties.

The Los Angeles Superior Court jury found Wednesday by a 9-3 margin that Beats breached a contract with Steven Lamar and his company Jibe Audio.

Dr. Dre and Iovine, the music producer and co-founder of Interscope Records, were not in court for the verdict. Both testified during the three-week trial and sat in the audience for opening statements.

The suit said Lamar in 2006 came to Dr. Dre, whose real name is Andre Young, with the idea for celebrity-endorsed headphones. Attorneys for Lamar contended he was owed over $130 million for a dozen different models of headphones.

The defendants acknowledged that Lamar was involved in initial plans, but argued he was only owed for one product, the original Studio model, and was already paid.

"The jury really validated our theory of the case, that Mr. Lamar was involved in the founding of Beats," Lamar's attorney Stephen E. Morrissey said outside court. "It's not everything we were asking for, but we're happy."

Lamar said the award could grow because of future sales of headphones still on the market.

Beats attorneys declined comment outside court.

A minimum of nine jurors had to agree to reach a verdict.

The verdict, reached after three days of deliberations, did not break down separate amounts to be paid by each defendant. Beats, which added a music streaming service after its 2006 founding as a headphone company, was acquired by Apple in a $3 billion deal in May of 2014. The lawsuit was filed four months earlier and does not name Apple as a defendant.

Apple representatives did not immediately respond to phone calls and emails seeking comment.

The $25.2 million award is pocket change for Apple. Based on earnings in the past fiscal year, it generates that much revenue, on average, every hour of the day.

Freshman's plans for college include breast enhancement

DEAR ABBY: My wife's niece, a high school senior, is a beautiful girl with an excellent, well-proportioned figure. Like many girls her age, she's narcissistic and obsessed with her looks, and constantly posting pictures of herself on social media.

She's off to college in a few months, and "in order to ensure she's attractive to boys," wants to get a boob job. She works in a clothing store and has saved toward the cost.

Her mother and aunt are supportive and willing to help her pay for it. Their logic is, they both had boob jobs. However, they had theirs done well into their 40s, after their children were born and as clear-thinking adults. I feel being supportive of an 18-year-old making such a major decision for what I think is the wrong reason is irresponsible parenting.

I know it's absolutely none of my business, and I won't say a word, but I wonder what your commonsense opinion is. They do read your column.

RATIONAL UNCLE IN THE WEST

DEAR UNCLE: I agree with you that getting breast enhancement surgery to be more attractive to boys is doing it for the wrong reason. But my "commonsense" opinion is that if the cosmetic surgery is approved by the girl's mother and aunt, for your own safety, you should stay out of the minefield.

DEAR ABBY: My 23-year-old son, "John," got his girlfriend, "Jane," pregnant. Everyone seemed to be happy—I know I was—even though they were not going to get married.

Well, they had a big fight and Jane moved out. They say their relationship is over and irreparable. I want to have a baby shower for my son because he is going to need stuff at his house, too. Jane does not want to attend. Can I have a baby shower for my son?

GRANDMA IN WAITING

DEAR GRANDMA: Under the circumstances, a shower for your son would be appropriate for the reason you stated in your letter. Jane's absence should not prevent there from being one. However, I hope with time the drama will subside, and Jane will realize children need both parents present in their lives and will be able to successfully co-parent with your son.

DEAR ABBY: Over the past few months, my husband and I have been getting phone calls claiming we have been charged with a crime and face dire consequences if we don't return the call immediately. As a recent law enforcement retiree, my husband knows these calls are bogus.

Please remind your readers NO ONE is ever informed of legitimate legal action against them by a pre-recorded phone call. This includes the IRS. Notice of legitimate action is sent through the postal service or personally delivered by a court-designated representative, usually the police. I don't want any of your readers, especially retirees, to fall victim to this scam.

RETIREES, WATCH OUT!

DEAR READERS: If you haven't heard or read about this kind of scam—which can be very scary—please share this item with friends and relatives. I received one of these messages about six months ago, and one of my staff members got one a few days ago. Do not engage with these con artists. If you happen to pick up the phone, say nothing and just hang up.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

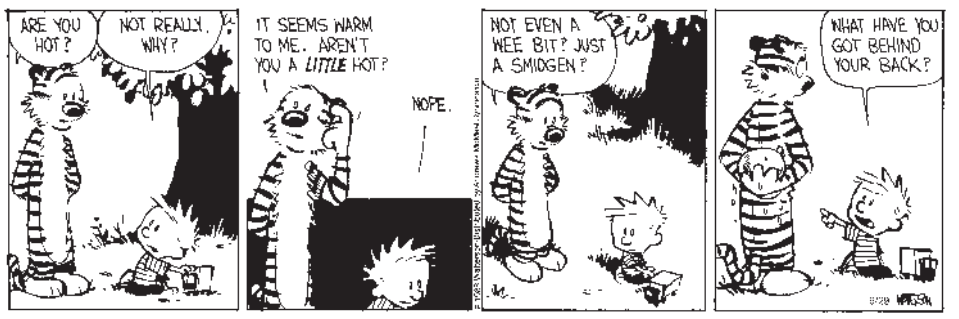
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

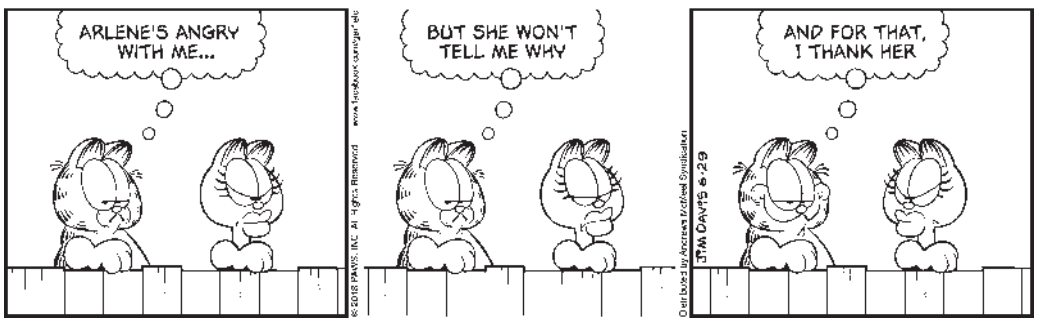
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


ARE YOU HOT?
NOT REALLY. WHY?
IT SEEMS WARM TO ME. AREN'T YOU A LITTLE HOT?
NOPE.
NOT EVEN A WEE BIT? JUST A SMIDGEN?
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT BEHIND YOUR BACK?

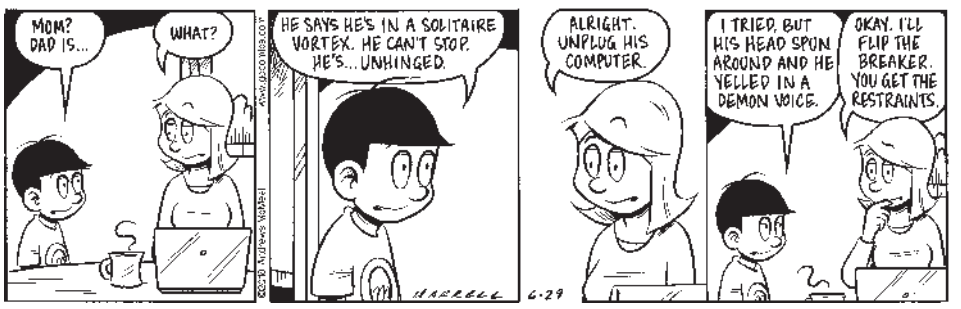
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


MOM? DAD IS...
WHAT?
HE SAYS HE'S IN A SOLITAIRE VORTEX. HE CAN'T STOP. HE'S...UNHINGED.
ALRIGHT. UNPLUG HIS COMPUTER.
I TRIED, BUT HIS HEAD SPUN AROUND AND HE YELLED IN A DEMON VOICE.
OKAY. I'LL FLIP THE BREAKER. YOU GET THE RESTRAINTS.
6-29

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I'M WRITING MY CONGRESSMAN ABOUT THE CORRUPTION IN POLITICS.
LET'S HEAR IT SO FAR.
"DEAR REP. NUISBICKEL, HOW ARE THINGS IN CELL BLOCK C?"

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

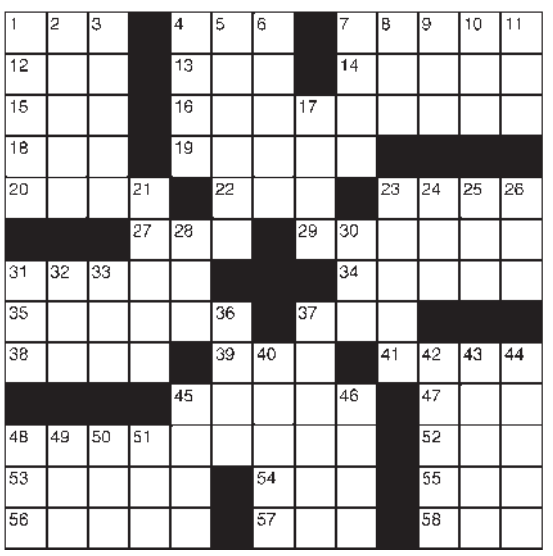
ACROSS
1 "Kapow!"
4 Small ammo
7 Carnival attractions
12 Hearty brew
13 Feedbag bit
14 Warning
15 eBay offer
16 Prepran-dial drink
18 Expert
19 Shrill barks
20 500 sheets
22 Observe
23 New Age singer
27 Still
29 Damp cleaner
31 Studied "over"
34 Form
35 Re-hearsal
37 Green prefix
38 Bank charges
39 "Aladdin" monkey
41 Bridge
45 Pancake order
47 Coach Par-seghian
48 Stick-in-the-mud
52 Little louse
53 Repre-sentative
54 Showbiz job
55 Chow down
56 Indulges, with "on"
57 Mag. staff
58 Devious

DOWN
1 Storybook elephant
2 Author Walker
3 Euripides tragedy
4 Soul mate?
5 Least adorned
6 Fashion
7 Stadium cheers
8 — -de-France
9 Aachen article
10 Mess up
11 Farm pen
17 Gush
21 Mike of "Shrek"
23 Commu-nity spirit
24 Gun lobby org.
25 Chatter
26 Census stat
28 Sch. URL ender
30 Computer key
31 Printable file format
32 Metal source
33 Deli bread
36 Peace-keeping org.
37 Greek geometry master
40 Police ID
42 Glazier's sheets
43 Popular typeface
44 Stylishly dressed
45 Lushes
46 Small barrels
48 Bankroll
49 Swelled head
50 Hanoi holiday
51 Away from SSW

Solution time: 25 mins.

T	R	A		S	A	L	E		R	A	N	G
W	E	B		C	H	I	N		A	L	A	N
A	B	I	C	A	I	L	S		D	O	N	A
		N	O	F		A	U	D	I	T	O	R
T	R	I	B	A	L		E	P	A			
S	A	I		B	U	M		S	I	A	L	E
A	H	I	Z		G	O	I		E	B	A	Y
F	E	O	I	L		P	E	P		U	K	E
			P	E	A		D	I	O	D	E	S
T	E	M	P	E	S	T		L	A	H		
A	G	E	E		K	O	H	L	R	A	B	I
B	O	E	R		E	R	M	A		B	O	A
S	S	T	S		D	O	O	R		I	N	N

Yesterday's answer 6-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Camila Mendes, 24; Nicole Scherzinger, 40; Melora Hardin, 51; Gary Busey, 74.

Happy Birthday: Dive in and take control this year. You'll be surprised at how much you accomplish. By taking the initiative, you will be able to control situations that are up in the air and causing you angst. Look at the big picture and summarize what you are up against. You'll find the best way to get the results you want. Your numbers are 7, 13, 22, 26, 32, 39, 43.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Stay focused on being your best. Use your energy to benefit yourself, not to change others or to fight a losing battle. Recognize your strengths and use them wisely to encourage success. Take care of responsibilities before someone complains. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Think your way through any situation you face. Your diligent approach to accomplishing whatever ordeal you face will prove your capabilities to anyone considering you for a special position or job. Give your best, and you'll get your best. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Seize the moment and take action. The best way to ensure that something gets done the way you want is to do it yourself. Don't frustrate yourself by trying to get others to do things for you. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Size up a situation and do your best to make positive adjustments. Taking on too much will not solve problems. Don't feel obligated to take care of other people's issues or shortcomings. Do your own thing, and take care of your responsibilities. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Explore your mental and physical capabilities. Testing your ability will help you decipher what to do next or how to handle a situation you are faced with at work or at home. Don't overreact or indulge. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Look for what excites you most and head in that direction. Discovering new methods, cultures or technology that can apply to your current lifestyle will help you grow personally and bring you in contact with interesting people. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't worry too much about what others are doing. Concentrate on what you are trying to achieve and how best to use your energy to reach your goals. Personal improvement is featured, but so is sticking to a strict budget. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Live and learn. What you come up against will teach you how best to move forward. Don't let frustration take over when understanding, patience and the willingness to explore new possibilities are needed. Protect against injury and insult. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take the time to think matters through before you take action. Having a sound plan in place will help you avoid backtracking or getting results that limit your chance to get ahead. A little romance will ease stress. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't put too much pressure on others or on yourself. Go with the flow and maintain a sense of balance; everything else will fall into place. Plan to schmooze with colleagues or to make positive changes to your living arrangements. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep your life simple and refuse to engage in prospects that appear to be too excessive or uncertain. Consistency will play a major role in avoiding complaints and criticism. A passionate plan will enhance your personal life. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* What you do for others will be repaid. Taking on a new challenge will get your mind moving toward positive changes that will make life easier. Opportunity is heading your way, and a gift or unexpected financial gain looks promising. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are responsible, insightful and kind. You are changeable and proactive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3	5			6	2	4		
			5				1	
								8
2	8				3			
	9			1			4	
			8				5	2
5								
	2				4			
		4	3	7			6	9

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

5	3	9	7	6	1	8	2	4
1	2	7	3	4	8	5	6	9
8	4	6	9	2	5	7	3	1
9	1	8	4	5	3	6	7	2
2	6	5	8	9	7	1	4	3
3	7	4	2	1	6	9	5	8
6	8	3	1	7	4	2	9	5
7	9	1	5	3	2	4	8	6
4	5	2	6	8	9	3	1	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 6/28

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

HEN HOUSES **Solution: 10 letters**

S	F	N	O	I	T	A	L	I	T	N	E	V	D	L
S	E	E	F	E	E	D	F	I	E	G	N	K	E	I
E	M	S	C	L	E	A	N	R	G	I	C	W	R	T
N	A	T	U	K	O	D	A	L	A	E	D	O	U	T
K	L	B	C	O	O	C	A	R	Ⓟ	M	O	O	C	E
R	E	O	A	O	H	Y	K	Ⓞ	S	F	E	D	E	R
A	L	X	R	C	I	R	Ⓞ	O	S	T	E	R	S	O
D	O	O	F	N	K	Ⓒ	I	W	F	H	R	G	E	A
O	E	P	G	M	H	Y	I	A	I	E	A	A	L	M
O	S	F	I	I	D	R	A	E	H	N	N	T	W	U
R	L	C	C	R	E	E	M	R	L	S	D	C	C	E
S	E	K	A	M	F	F	R	C	D	I	E	O	E	H
D	E	H	E	R	E	N	A	B	R	U	B	R	W	D
N	P	S	E	A	L	T	F	S	S	L	W	O	F	S
R	H	E	A	T	S	R	U	R	A	L	L	A	M	S

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A-frame, Backyard, Care, Cats, Chicken, Clean, Coop, Darkness, Doors, Egg Laying, Eglu, Farm, Feed, Female, Fenced, Flock, Food, Fowls, Free, Fresh Air, Hardy, Hatch, Heat, Houses, Indoor, Litter, Locked, Mice, Mobile, Nest Box, Peck, Rain, Roam, Root, Roosters, Rural, Safe, Seal, Secured, Sleep, Small, Straw, Urban, Ventilation, Windows, Wire Mesh, Wood

Yesterday's Answer: Fresher

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

EMPLOYMENT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete; Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records; Supervise, train, assign, review and evaluate performance of one (1) A/R clerk and one (1) cashier; May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers; Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information; Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes; Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations; Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents; Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers; Code documents according to company procedures; Perform financial calculations, such as amounts due, interest charges, balances, discounts, equity, and principal; Reconcile or note and report discrepancies found in records; Perform general office duties, such as filing, answering telephones, and handling routine correspondence; Access computerized financial information to answer general questions as well as those related to specific accounts.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School graduate or equivalent
- At least five (5) years experience in Bookkeeping, Accounting or Auditing Clerk

Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to:

Satya V. Vallabhaneni
General Manager
Bisnes Mami Saipan, Inc. dba NAPA
Auto & Truck Parts
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 504640
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 234-0475
or e-mail: nani@bmiguam.com

WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

ONE (1) BAKERY SUPERVISOR DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Ensures products for quality and identify damaged or expired goods; Supervises approximately 25-35 bakers; Supervise the setting of oven temperatures and place items into hot oven temperatures and place items into hot ovens for baking; Supervise measurement of ingredients in bowls of mixing, blending, or cooking machinery; Place dough in pans, molds, or on sheets and bake in production ovens or on grills; Set time and speed controls of mixing machines, blending machines, or steam kettles so that ingredients will be mixed or cooked according to instructions; Measure or weigh flour or other ingredients to prepare batters, doughs, fillings, or icings, using scales or graduated containers; Observe color of products being baked and adjust oven temperatures, humidity, or conveyor speeds accordingly; Ensures the quality of raw materials to ensure that standards and specifications are met; check equipment to ensure that it meets health and safety regulations and perform maintenance or cleaning, as necessary; Adapt the quantity of ingredients to match the amount of items to be baked; Monitor application of glazes, icings, or other toppings to baked goods, using spatulas or brushes; Monitor the decoration of baked goods, such as cakes or pastries; Roll, knead, cut, or shape dough to form sweet rolls, pie crusts, tarts, cookies, or other products; Direct or coordinate bakery deliveries; Order or receive supplies or equipment; Prepare or maintain inventory or production records; Operate slicing or wrapping machines; and Develop new recipes for baked goods. Perform other related duties as assigned.
DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS: High School graduate or equivalent. At least four (4) years' experience in bakery and production. Interested individuals please send your resume with a list of references, photocopy of a valid photo identification card & updated police clearance to: Annie G. Hayes, General Manager, Herman's Modern Bakery, Inc., P.O. Box 500002, Tun Herman Pan Rd., Saipan, MP 96950, Tel: (670) 234-1726, Email: sales.saipan@hermansbakery.com. WE ARE AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

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Martinez hits record 25th HR, Red Sox top Angels

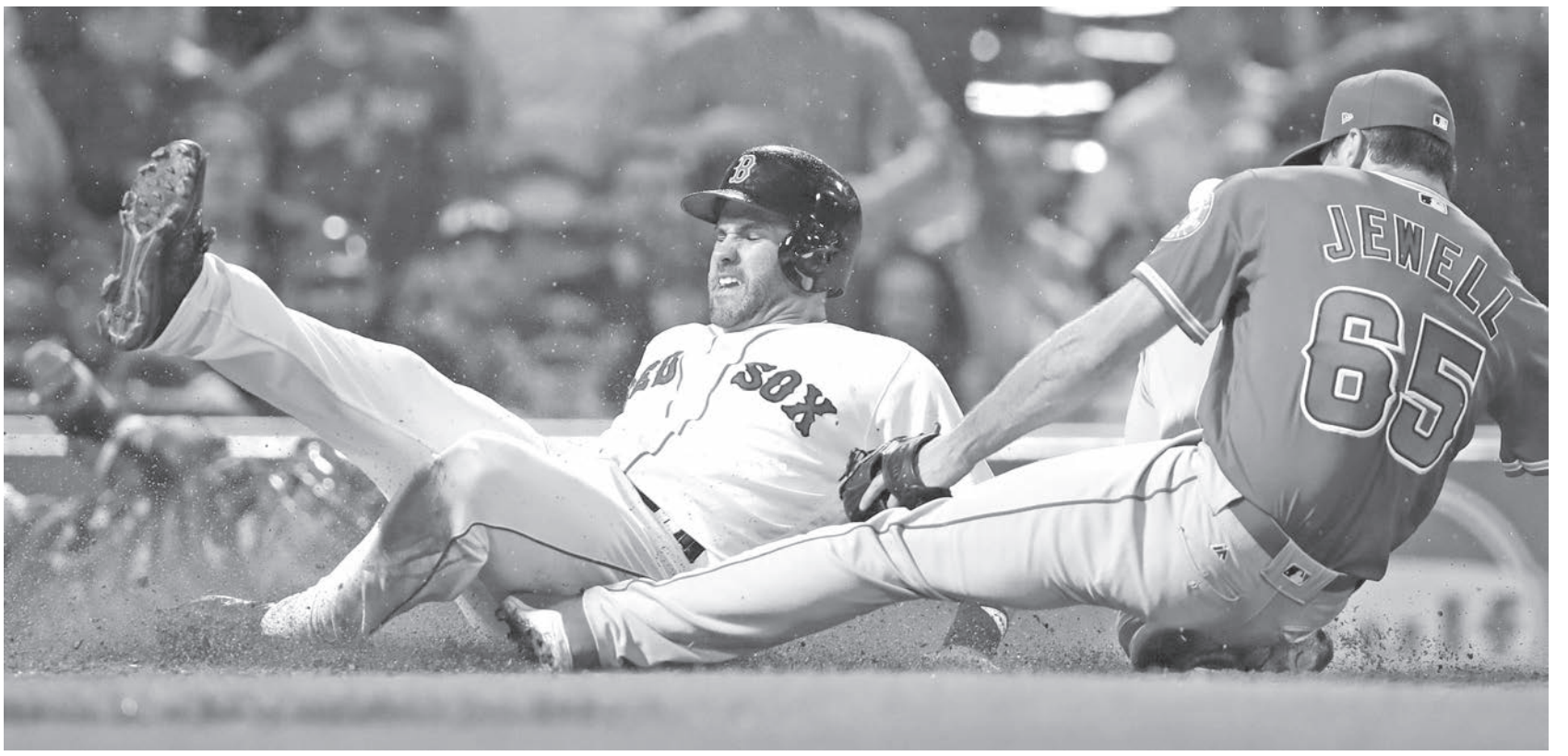
BOSTON (AP)—J.D. Martinez hit his major league-leading 25th home run, Rafael Devers delivered a tiebreaking double and the Boston Red Sox beat the skidding Los Angeles Angels 9-6 on Wednesday night after squandering a six-run lead.

Martinez's homer capped a six-run second for the Red Sox, who won for the fifth time in six games. Eduardo Nunez and Sandy Leon also went deep in the inning. Boston improved to 5-0 against the Angels this season and has outscored them 45-10.

Martin Maldonado launched a three-run homer and Ian Kinsler had a solo shot for the Angels. They lost their fifth straight and 12th in 16 games.

Los Angeles reliever Jake Jewell was carted off the field with what appeared to be a gruesome injury to his right ankle after covering the plate on a run-scoring wild pitch in the eighth.

Angels star Mike Trout went 1 for 4 as a sprained right index finger kept him as the designated hitter for the eighth consecutive game.



AP

Boston Red Sox's J.D. Martinez, left, scores on a wild pitch as Los Angeles Angels' pitcher Jake Jewell (65) covers home during the eighth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Wednesday, June 27, 2018. Jewell injured his right ankle on the play.

Astros 7, Blue Jays 6

In Houston, Alex Bregman hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to complete a big rally in Houston's victory over Toronto.

It was Bregman's third straight game with a homer and it capped a huge comeback for the Astros. They trailed 5-0 in the middle of the first inning after a terrible start by Dallas Keuchel.

The Astros trailed by one when Tony Kemp singled off Ryan Tepera (5-3) with no outs in the ninth and advanced to second on a wild pitch. Then with one out in the inning, Bregman sent a fastball to left field, where it bounced off the wall above the Crawford Boxes, to give Houston the victory.

Bregman also doubled twice after hitting a homer and doubling three times in a win on Tuesday night.

Rangers 5, Padres 2

In Arlington, Mike Minor took a perfect game into the seventh inning, Shin-Soo Choo reached base for the 40th straight game and Texas beat San Diego.

Minor (6-4) was perfect until Eric Hosmer's single up the middle with one out in the seventh. One out later, center fielder Delino DeShields preserved Minor's shutout by leaping to rob Hunter Renfroe of a home run. Minor struck out five and threw 85 pitches.

Choo tied Philadelphia's Odubel Herrera for the longest on-base streak this season.

Pirates 5, Mets 3

In New York, David Freese hit a go-ahead, two-run single and Pittsburgh rallied for four runs in the ninth inning to beat New York.

Gregory Polanco had an RBI single and Josh Bell added a sacrifice fly in the ninth as the Pirates, shut down by Zack Wheeler most of the night, came back against a beleaguered New York bullpen to win for just the second time in eight games.

Wilmer Flores homered and Asdrubal Cabrera had three hits for New York.

Phillies 3, Yankees 0

In Philadelphia, Zach Eflin limited New York to four hits in seven innings, and Rhys Hoskins hit a three-run homer in Philadelphia's victory.

Eflin won his fifth straight start and kept the surprising Phillies in the thick of the NL East race.

Eflin (6-2) became the first Phillies pitcher to win five starts in a month (he had a 1.76 ERA in June) since Cole Hamels went 5-0 in May 2012.

Diamondbacks 2, Marlins 1

In Miami, Robbie Ray pitched six scoreless innings in his first game in nearly two months in Arizona's victory over Miami.

Ray (3-0) allowed two hits and issued two walks. He struck out six in his first game since April 29. Ray had been on the disabled list with a strained right oblique.

Mariners 8, Orioles 7, 11 innings

In Baltimore, Denard Span hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the 11th inning after Kyle Seager delivered a two-run homer in the ninth, and Seattle beat Baltimore.

Playing without injured Nelson Cruz for a second straight game, the Mariners got a home run from Ryon Healy and had 14 hits while improving their record in extra innings to 7-0.

Indians 5, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Edwin Encarnacion and Lonnie Chisenhall hit back-to-back homers, and rookie Shane Bieber pitched six strong innings to help Cleveland beat St. Louis.

Bieber (3-0) struck out seven to become the seventh pitcher in baseball's modern era to strike out six or more batters in each of his first four major league starts.

Royals 5, Brewers 4

In Milwaukee, Mike Moustakas' solo homer opened a five-run seventh inning that snapped an extended run-scoring slump for Kansas City, and the Royals held off Milwaukee.

Danny Duffy (4-7) allowed five hits over six effective innings for the Royals.

Wily Peralta closed it out the game after Brad Miller hit a three-run homer off reliever Tim Hill with nobody out in the ninth to get the Brewers to 5-4.

Athletics 3, Tigers 0

In Detroit, Jed Lowrie hit an RBI double in the fourth inning and Chris Bassitt pitched six innings in Oakland's victory over Detroit.

The A's won for the ninth time in 11 games and moved five games over .500 for the first time this year. They did not clear the fences, ending their major league-record road homer streak at 27 games.

Reds 6, Braves 5

In Atlanta, Adam Duvall had a two-run single in the seventh inning, Jose Peraza homered and scored twice, and Cincinnati beat Atlanta.

The Reds have won two straight and nine of 10, taking two of three from the NL East-leading Braves.

White Sox 6, Twins 1

In Chicago, Jose Abreu and Avisail Garcia homered for Chicago, and James Shields limited Minnesota to four hits over seven innings.

Shields (3-9) struck out five and walked just two in his only scoreless start of the season.

Ehire Adrianza had four hits and an RBI for Minnesota, which has dropped two straight games and five of six.

Serena seeded No. 25 in Wimbledon return

LONDON (AP)—Serena Williams was seeded No. 25 for her return to Wimbledon after having a baby, a decision by the All England Club announced Wednesday that elevates the tournament's seven-time champion above her ranking of 183rd.

While WTA rules allow women who miss time because of a pregnancy to enter events based on their pre-absence ranking, there is no guarantee of a seeding, a policy which has been the subject of much debate in recent months because of Williams' status. The 36-year-old American gave birth to a daughter last September and was off the tour for more than a year.

By moving Williams into the Top 32, the All England Club afforded her "protection" from facing any other seeded player in either of the first two rounds — and, of course, allowed the other seeds to avoid facing her that early, too. Williams is a former No. 1 whose 23 major singles championships are a record for the professional era, which began in 1968. She missed Wimbledon in 2017, but won the title the last two times she was in the field, in 2015 and 2016.

Putting Williams at No. 25 now means that she could face someone seeded No. 1 through No. 8 in the third round.

The draw for Wimbledon is Friday; play begins Monday.

Wimbledon and other Grand Slam tournaments have leeway to stray from strictly following the WTA and ATP rankings when determining seedings. That's why, for example, eight-time Wimbledon champion Roger Federer's success on grass courts was taken into account when the All England Club bumped him up a spot to No. 1 on Wednesday, while top-ranked Rafael Nadal is seeded No. 2.

When Williams entered the French Open in May, her first Grand Slam action in 16 months, she was not seeded by the French tennis federation. She wound up beating the women ranked No. 11 and No. 17 en route to reaching the fourth round. But because of an injured pectoral muscle, Williams pulled out of Roland Garros before what would have been a showdown against five-time major champion Maria Sharapova.

The U.S. Tennis Association says it does intend to seed Williams for the U.S. Open, which begins in August. That is part of a new plan, first reported by The New York Times, to take into account if a pregnancy affected a player's ranking.

"Pregnancy will not be penalized," USTA spokesman Chris Widmaier said. "If Serena Williams enters the 2018 U.S. Open, the USTA will recognize her accomplishments, recognize her return to the workplace and will seed her, regardless of what her ranking is."

No unseeded woman has won the Wimbledon singles championship. Only two unseeded men have raised the trophy at the All England Club: Boris Becker in 1985, and Goran Ivanisevic in 2001.

Aside from the All England Club's placing of Williams, the women's seedings align with the rankings. So French Open champion Simona Halep is No. 1, Australian Open Caroline Wozniacki is No. 2, reigning Wimbledon champion Garbine Muguruza is No. 3, and U.S. Open champion Sloane Stephens is No. 4.

Sharapova is seeded 24th.

In the men's draw, after Federer and Nadal, 2017 runner-up Marin Cilic is No. 3, followed by Alexander Zverev and Juan Martin del Potro.

So many dominoes: LeBron can dictate free agency

MIAMI (AP)—The rumor mill is in overdrive, with nuggets such as these: LeBron James has looked at schools in Los Angeles, he's not particularly fond of Houston and he's hugging restaurant diners in Miami.

Ah, free agency is back.

It technically starts Sunday at 12:01 a.m. EDT in the East, 9:01 p.m. Saturday out West, but is already well underway everywhere in the sense that everybody is talking about what might happen. James is once again the biggest domino that will fall; he may opt out of his contract, but that doesn't mean he'll leave Cleveland -- and he may opt in for nearly $36 million next season, but that doesn't mean he's certain to be staying, either.

Boston guard Kyrie Irving has a word for these days: Preagency.

"That's actually a title to describe what's going on now," Irving said. "But yeah, we know that 12 a.m. July 1st, that's when it just starts getting nutty."

James is hardly the only person who will create that nuttiness.

Paul George has a decision to make about his future; stay in Oklahoma City or move on, with the Los Angeles Lakers believed to be his dream destination. San Antonio has big decisions to make about Kawhi Leonard; they can take a risk and keep him for the final year of his contract, offer him a new deal or trade him elsewhere. And what happens in their cases will surely impact what James does, much in the same way the Chris Bosh decision in 2010 helped really pave the way for him to go to Miami.

Thing is, nobody knows what'll happen. Hence, the intrigue.

"That's the challenge in this league," James said during the NBA Finals, when his Cavaliers were swept by Golden State. "I think every GM and every president and every coaching staff is trying to figure out how they can make up the right matchups to compete for a championship and win a championship."

The Los Angeles Lakers will have about $61 million in cap space; half the league might not have any. So this summer, with cap space for most teams at a premium, the biggest moves might have to come through trades.

AP

Golden State Warriors' Draymond Green and Stephen Curry defend against Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James in this undated photo.

"There has been a lot of discussion with a lot of teams about a lot of players," Heat President Pat Riley said. "I just feel there's a restlessness on the part of teams, and also there's a reluctance to do things. ... It's hard to pull the trigger on that kind of thing."

Golden State's Kevin Durant will be a free agent in name only—he's already said he's returning to the Warriors. Golden State will spend free agency bolstering its bench, and the best team in the NBA should be better in the next couple of weeks.

All that's left to decide there is what terms Durant wants.

"Whatever he wants," Golden State general manager Bob Myers said. "Sometimes you don't negotiate. ... He's earned the right to sign whatever deal he wants. I just want him to sign `a' deal. I want him to be happy and want him to know that we want him as long as he wants to be here. He's earned that, to kind of lay out the terms."

Philadelphia isn't tampering, but isn't being shy: Both coach Brett Brown and newly minted rookie of the year Ben Simmons have come out this offseason and said how much a great veteran will help their team.

"Maybe that is a free agent, a big free agent who we can lean on and learn from," Simmons said.

He didn't say "LeBron," but sure sounds like James.

Houston will look to add James as well in an effort to find the formula that will supplant the Warriors. The Rockets nearly ousted Golden State in the Western Conference finals, wasting double-digit leads in both Game 6 and Game 7 of that series—all while Chris Paul, who seems likely to stay in Houston but could choose to leave, was sidelined with a bad hamstring.

But Rockets star James Harden, the NBA's MVP, didn't sound like he would be clamoring for James to come to Houston.

"I don't think there is a piece that we need to bring in or take away," Harden said. "We're great with what we have."

Miami is the place where James left Cleveland for once before, and it's clear that he still enjoys South Florida.

Lakers under pressure to make deal for Leonard

A day after Los Angeles Lakers president of basketball operations Earvin "Magic" Johnson exuded confidence beyond the expectations of many, ESPN reported pressure is mounting on Johnson and the Lakers' front office to make a deal for San Antonio Spurs forward Kawhi Leonard.

The pressure, according to ESPN, revolves around Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James. By Friday, James will have to make a decision whether or not to enter free agency.

Leonard's situation will likely affect that decision.

Later Wednesday, ESPN reported that the Lakers had reached out again to pursue Leonard for the first time since their initial inquiry, reinforcing the reported urgency.

For months, many thought the Lakers were in the driver's seat to land Oklahoma City forward Paul George. Not only did ESPN report Wednesday that George is no longer assured of signing with the the Lakers, but it also referenced George (who said last summer he would eventually sign with the Lakers) as a reason pressure is mounting.

This news follows a day in which Johnson spoke confidently about the Lakers' prospects.

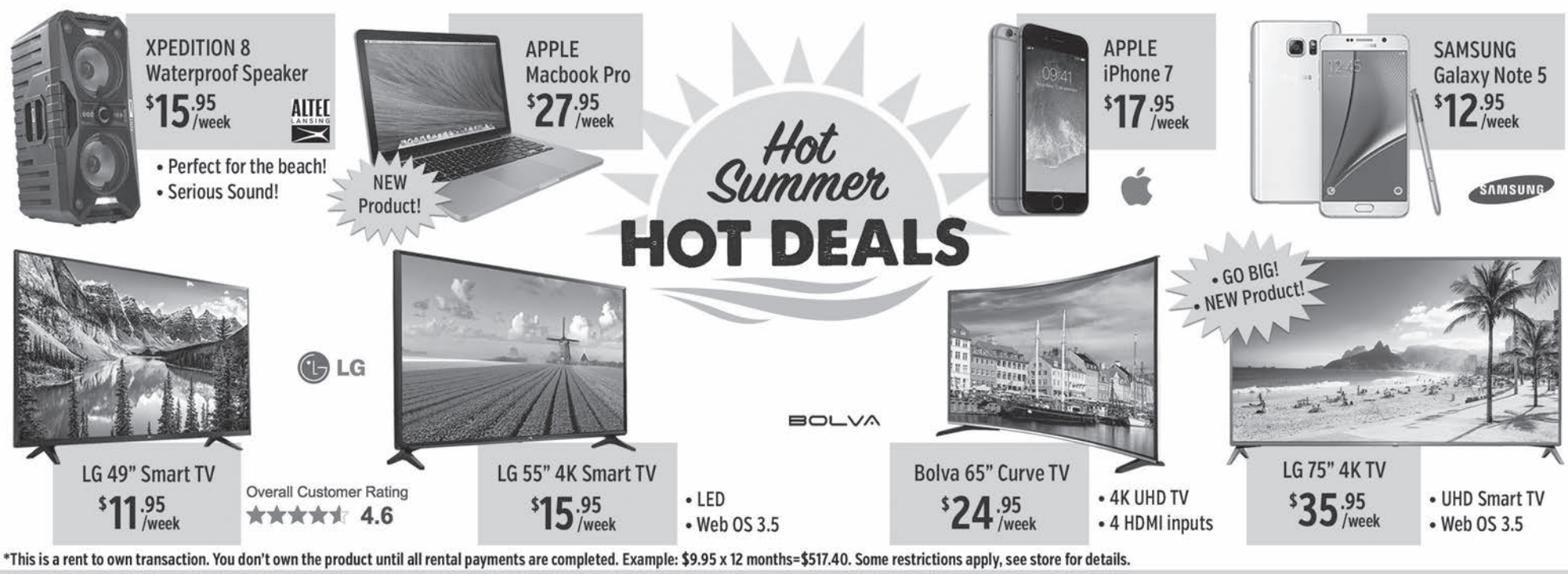
"Next summer, if nobody comes and I'm still sitting here like this, then it's a failure," Johnson said. "If I can't deliver I'm going to step down myself, [Jeanie Buss] won't have to fire me, I'll step away from it, because I can't do this job."

The quote, which was spoken by Johnson at the Lakers' NBA draftee media session, spoke to the Lakers' commitment to acquire a superstar (or multiple)—one of whom is Leonard, who expressed his want to be traded after complications with the Spurs regarding their handling of his quadriceps injury during the past year.

As for what the Lakers would have to give up for Leonard, ESPN reported a certain combination of former first-round picks in Brandon Ingram, Kyle Kuzma and Josh Hart, as well as future first-round picks. Not to mention, a possible sign-and-trade agreement for restricted free agent Julius Randle could be in play.

The Lakers have also "expressed a willingness" to pursue salary dumps for the 2018-19 season in hopes of acquiring a future first-rounder as part of a possible deal. That said, in the two organizations' initial conversations, the Lakers did not get very far.

The Boston Celtics, Cleveland Cavaliers, Philadelphia 76ers and Los Angeles Clippers are also teams that have made offers to the Spurs for Leonard.



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CNMI Junior All-Stars vs PH in ASPAC opener

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Senior and Junior All-Stars players and officials pose for a photo after arriving in Pampanga, Philippines to compete in the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament.

The CNMI Junior All-Star Team and host Philippines will kick off the action in the 2018 Asia Pacific-Middle East Regional Tournament tomorrow at the Global Villages, Clark Freeport Zone in Pampanga.

The CNMI versus Philippines game will start at 7am (5am Saipan time). The host will be represented by the team from Tanauan Little League from Batangas, while the Commonwealth bets will be led by players from Comets 1, which ruled the 2018 Saipan Little League Baseball after beating the Falcons in the finals last Sunday.

Manager Greg Camacho will lean on regular season and Finals MVP Bing Nakamura, who is joined on the team by Reid Teregeyo, Justin Agulto, Nathan Aizon, Heath Camacho, Patrick Celis, Justin Magofna, Jonathan Riungel, Keoni Serrano, Antonio Norita, Alex Achas, Joseph Ada, Ohane Borja, and Jason Joseph Reyes. Ned Norita and Herman Kintol are the coach and assistant coach, respectively.

After their game against the Philippines, the CNMI Junior All-Stars will duel China this Sunday, while their last two matches will be against Chinese-Taipei (July 3) and Hong Kong (Julu 4). Only the Top 4 teams will advance to the playoffs with the No. 1 and 4 squads battling for the first finals ticket and the No. 2 and 3 finishers squaring off for the remaining slot to the title game. The semis matches will be played on July 5, while the finals date will be announced later.

In the Senior League division, the CNMI won't be playing until this Sunday when it takes on neighbor Guam in the second game. After dueling Guam, the Doru Camacho-managed team will meet Indonesia (July 2) and New Zealand (July 3).

The top finisher in the group will automatically move into the semis, while the No. 2 to 7 placers will vie for the three remaining Final Four tickets.

The CNMI Senior All-Stars are represented by players Leveque Iguel, Vicente Camacho II, Josenio Alvarez, Kianna Aldan, Pedro Maratita, Jordan Babauta, Dennis Cabrera, Justin Peter Celis, Aven Evangelista, Joaquin Fleming, Trevon Lieto, Ignacio Mendiola, Donovan Deleon Guerrero, Joel Norita, Orren-Cody Cruz, and Arby Yaguel.

Winners of the Junior and Senior League titles will represent the region in the World Series.

Meanwhile, the CNMI Major All-Stars Team is now in Korea to compete for the World Series slot in the division.

The game schedule of the Manny Evangelista-managed squad has yet to be determined, but the CNMI is in Pool A with the host, China, Indonesia, and Guam. Pool B has Hong Kong, the Philippines, Chinese-Taipei, New Zealand, and Thailand.

4

From Page 40

In the women's 50m backstroke, Jinju Thompson logged 36.96 seconds, surpassing her old PBT (37.31 seconds). Thompson notched her second PBT on Day 2 after recording 1:09.31 in the 100m freestyle. Her previous PBT was 1:09.66. Gauran did the same race and checked in at 1:09.40 to beat eight other swimmers.

In the men's 100m freestyle, the Suzuki brothers and Villlacrusis marked PBTs. Lennosuke's 57.60 seconds (No. 27 out of 50 swimmers and the fastest among the CNMI swimmers) broke his old record (58.33), while Jinnosuke's new PBT read at 1:00.81 (from 1:01.13). Villacrusis clocked in at 57.98 seconds to beat his previous PBT of 58.42 seconds. Batallones was the fourth Commonwealth swimmer to complete the race and posted 1:03.77.

Meanwhile, Lennosuke also got a PBT in the 50m butterfly event last Tuesday after clocking in at 30.03 seconds (from 30.62). Batallones was in the same heat with Lennosuke and logged 30.48 seconds.

In the women's 50m butterfly race, Gauran finished the sprint in 36.93 seconds, nearly two seconds faster than her old PBT (38.75 seconds).

CNMI

From Page 40

tournament at the Ada Gym should have two male and two female players, who must be born on or after January 2000. Registration is due on July 5, while a technical meeting among the team captains will be held at 5pm on July 3 at the conference room of the Ada Gym. Entrance fee is only $20 per team.

The winner of the CNMI qualifier will get to play against teams from Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Guam, Fiji, Myanmar, Laos, Brunei, Timor-Leste, Thailand, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, and Vietnam.

"The qualified participants will also be given the opportunity to participate in a youth leadership program with their other competitors, where they will learn about communication, decision making, and leadership skills; and develop an enhanced ability to handle adversity and leave their comfort zones. This Cup is unique as it aims to develop not only a winning attitude, but sportsmanship, community empowerment, and leadership amongst our youth," Rangamar said in an official statement sent to Saipan Tribune yesterday.

"We, the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation and IBF, are presenting this opportunity to you and your teams as we feel that your athletes may have the qualities not only found in highly competitive players, but in effective and inspiring leaders for the next generation of leaders in 3x3 basketball," she added.

To register or for more information, contact Rangamar at lrangamar13@gmail.com or call 783-7574 and 234-6672.

CAROL

From Page 40

the singles finals, 0-6, 4-6, and also faltered in the doubles title game when she and Maxine Ng of Singapore were defeated by Violet and Patricia Apisah, 6-0, 7-6 (3). Lee had a chance to return to the tournament and make up for the pair of losses last year, as she has been in Fiji for about a month, training at the regional facility along with six other CNMI players.

Isabel Heras and Conatsu Kaga joined Lee in the singles main draw, but dropped their opening matches. Qualifier and Australia's Ella Fraser downed Heras, 6-2, 6-1, while China's Yujia Ma swept Kaga, 6-1, 6-3.

In other results in the girls singles, four other players qualified to the quarterfinals. The list includes No. 4 and Australia's Helena Spiridis and No. 10 and New Zealand's Elys Saguil-Ventura, who may take on Lee in the semifinals if the CNMI player prevails in today's quarterfinal game. Lee will be pitted against the winner in the match between No. 9 Mio Kozaki of Japan and No. 8 Patricia Apisah.

In the doubles play, Lee and Australia's Chiara Di Tommaso drew a bye in the first round and will face the unranked pair of Kanami Hayashige and Ayaka Koga of Japan in Round 2. The Japanese duo advanced following a tough 4-6, 6-3, 10-4 triumph over compatriot Julia Daiya Barden and Heras.

Kaga is also entered in the doubles event and will team-up with the Solomon Islands' Zorika Morgan. The Pacific Oceania pair will challenge No. 3 Kokomi Koyama and Kozaki of Japan in the first round.

Meanwhile, Robbie Schorr won his opening match in the boys singles after topping Australia's Darcy Nicholls, 6-4, 7-5. Up next for Schorr was No. 14 Satchel Benn and the New Zealand player eliminated the CNMI bet, 7-5, 6-4.

Sean Lee, Ken Song, and Jimin Woo also saw action in the boys singles and were booted out in the opening round by their Australian opponents. Benson Pisanelli ousted Song, 6-3, 6-0; Sohi Hitesh Shah swept Woo, 6-1, 6-3; and Stefan Cvetkovic downed Lee, 6-0, 6-0.

JAPAN

From Page 39

said Senegal coach Aliou Cisse. "You may dance and be happy in life and still be serious on the pitch. This is what we do."

Defender Kalidou Koulibaly said the team loves to dance before major matches.

"It is something that is in our blood, in our culture," Koulibaly said.

Senegal and Japan lead Group H with four points each. Colombia has three points and could advance if it beats Senegal, and both could go through with a draw if Japan loses. Poland has been eliminated.

Cisse was captain of the Senegal team at the 2002 World Cup that upset defending champion France in the group stage advancing though to the quarterfinals before falling to Turkey.

The Lions are the lone African team still alive for the knockout round at the World Cup.

GERMANY

From Page 39

sent the Koreans cheering in Kazan and the Mexicans delirious in Yekaterinburg. Originally called out for offside, the goal was given after video review.

Son Heung-min made it 2-0 in the sixth minute of stoppage time after Neuer came up the field to help his teammates outside the South Korea box. Son tapped the ball into an empty net after a long pass from Ju Se-jong.

Besides Germany this year, France in 2002, Italy in 2010 and Spain in 2014 were the previous defending champions to get eliminated in the group stage.

"We deserved to be eliminated," Germany coach Joachim Loew said. "For us, this is a huge disappointment. But we have young players who are talented and have the potential to go forward. It happened to other nations before. We need to draw the right conclusions."

All four teams in the group had a chance to advance in games that were being played simultaneously, but Sweden's 3-0 lead over Mexico put Germany in prime position to move on as well—if the Germans could score against the South Koreans.

That was the problem, for Germany.

Sweden 3, Mexico 0

Sweden was so dominant against Mexico at the World Cup that the best Mexican plays of the night were made 600 miles away by South Koreans.

The Swedes rolled to a rout, never challenged in the second half, overtaking Mexico to win Group F just four nights after a gut-wrenching last-minute loss to Germany. The result, combined with South Korea's 2-0 upset of the Germans, meant Sweden and Mexico—the group runner-up—advanced.

The defending champions from Germany go home early.

Sweden makes its first appearance in the knockout stage since 2006. Mexico plays in the round of 16 for the seventh straight World Cup, with its fans desperate for its first quarterfinal appearance in 32 years—the elusive "quinto partido," or fifth game.

Brazil 2, Serbia 0

Worried no more, Brazil is through at the World Cup.

Paulinho and Thiago Silva scored a goal each to give the five-time champions a victory over Serbia.

Brazil struggled in its opening two matches, first held to a 1-1 draw and then needing late goals to win the other. But they controlled this one, and it was a big relief to Tite.

"I'm apparently at peace," the Brazil coach said. "I'm still going to have a drink tonight for sure, a caipirinha. I'll allow myself."

Paulinho gave his team the lead when he met a lofted ball from Philippe Coutinho in the 36th minute. The defensive midfielder let the ball bounce in front of him near the penalty spot and kicked his right leg in the air to tap it over the goalkeeper's fingertips.

Silva later scored with a powerful header in the 68th from Neymar's corner.

Brazil finished first in Group E and will next face Mexico in the round of 16 on Monday in Samara. Serbia was eliminated, finishing third in the group behind Switzerland.

Costa Rica 2, Switzerland 2

Switzerland is through to a knockout game against Sweden at the World Cup. Half of its starting defense isn't.

Switzerland qualified second in Group E behind Brazil despite twice losing the lead in a 2-2 draw with Costa Rica on Wednesday night. The riveting game culminated with an injury-time penalty from Costa Rica captain Bryan Ruiz that hit the crossbar and went in off Swiss goalkeeper Yann Sommer's head.

Despite the late drama, a draw was enough to send Switzerland through to the knockout stage.

But the bad news for the Swiss: Yellow cards for captain Stephan Lichtsteiner and fellow defender Fabian Schaer—their second of the tournament—meant they'll be suspended for the Sweden match in St. Petersburg.

Their absence leaves two gaping holes to be filled at the back as Switzerland chases a place in the quarterfinals of the World Cup for the first time since 1954.

Germany crashes out with loss to South Korea

KAZAN, Russia (AP)—Everyone was waiting for Germany to score another late World Cup-saving goal.

It never came.

Instead, the Germans have become the fourth defending champions in the last five tournaments to be eliminated in the group stage following a 2-0 loss to South Korea on Wednesday.

The four-time champions allowed a pair of injury-time goals while knowing a 1-0 victory would have been enough to advance because of the result in the other group match.

"It's very, very hard to put it into words," said Germany defender Mats Hummels, a member of the team that won in Brazil four years ago. "We believed until the end today. Even when it was 0-1, I think we kept trying to turn it all around."

AP

Germany's players walk off the pitch as South Korea's Ju Sejong, front, celebrates after the group F match at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Kazan Arena in Kazan, Russia, Wednesday, June 27, 2018.

Germany ended up last in Group F while Sweden and Mexico advanced to the round of 16. South Korea was also eliminated despite the victory.

It was the first time Germany has been knocked out in the first round since 1938, though the team was not allowed to enter the 1950 tournament.

"It's a dark day for German football," Germany goalkeeper Manuel Neuer said.

Even in Yekaterinburg, nearly 500 miles away, the Mexican fans expected Germany to score. They were still in position to advance despite trailing Sweden, but they were waiting—some with tears in their eyes—for Germany to do the inevitable and ruin their chances of moving on.

That's when South Korea stepped up.

Kim Young-gwon scored the first goal in the third minute of injury time, a goal that

See GERMANY on Page 38

South Korea ends World Cup with mixed feelings

The tears flowed on both sides of the field after South Korea beat Germany at the World Cup.

Even in victory, the South Koreas struggled to compose themselves following a 2-0 win that knocked the defending champion Germans out of the tournament. That's because South Korea entered the match with a slim chance to advance but couldn't get it done.

"Since we won, everything went as planned," South Korea coach Shin Tae-yong said. "We looked at their strategies for the past four days. We looked at Germany's formation. I told (my players) we would have opportunities, that they would need the victory more than us."

South Korea had lost its opening two matches, but could have advanced with a victory at the Kazan Arena if Mexico had beaten Sweden in the other Group F match.

But nobody told the South Korean players that Mexico was getting routed 3-0, and they thought they were in contention right to the end.

"It was only after the game that we knew the score," South Korea goalkeeper Jo Hyeon-woo said. "We were really disappointed, that's why a lot of us cried."

South Korea, however, finished its campaign in Russian on a high, scoring two goals in injury time.

The South Koreans played aggressively in the first half and waited patiently for opportunities toward the end when the four-time champions pressed hard to score and get a victory that would have sent them through ahead of Mexico on goal difference.

While the Germans were clumsy in front of goal, Kim Young-gwon and Son Heung-min scored late while their teammates defended superbly with last-minute tackles and hard collective work.

Jo was also decisive, pulling off a superb one-handed save to deny Leon Goretzka's header aimed at the far corner. He also stopped substitute Mario Gomez's second-half header.

"We're not going to the last 16, but we did manage to beat the champions, and the World No. 1 team," Shin said. "I hope we can manage to improve and do better in the future."

AP

South Korea goalkeeper Jo Hyun-woo makes a save during the group F match between South Korea and Germany at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Kazan Arena in Kazan, Russia, Wednesday, June 27, 2018.

Japan wary of Lewandowski intent, eyes Round of 16 spot

VOLGOGRAD, Russia (AP)—Japan is expected to stick with goalkeeper Eiji Kawashima when it faces Poland and top striker Robert Lewandowski in a World Cup group match finale.

It's a crucial match for Japan, which is trying to advance to the round of 16. Poland has already been eliminated.

Kawashima made an error earlier in the tournament against Senegal that allowed Sadio Mane to score, and the goalkeeper is determined to make amends in the Group H match Thursday in Volgograd. Kawashima's spot in the starting lineup had been in doubt after coach Akira Nishino said he would assess the goalkeeper position after the 2-2 draw.

Kawashima punched a low shot straight onto the knee of Mane, who was just in front of him. When Kawashima appeared next to Nishino at a news conference Wednesday, his presence suggested there would be no change.

"This time, I would like to help them," Kawashima said of his teammates, who helped him regain his confidence after the error.

Japan and Senegal share the group lead with four points and the same number of goals scored and conceded. Colombia has three points and plays Senegal at the same time Japan and Poland will be squaring off. Japan can advance with a win or a draw. It could even advance with a loss, but that would require Senegal to lose, too.

Poland has been one of the tournament's most disappointing teams, particularly in attack even with Lewandowski. In two losses, Poland has only scored a single goal and the Bayern Munich striker is still trying to make an impact at the World Cup.

"I'm sure Poland would like to play for their pride and Lewandowski is a world class marksman, and every time he comes out he wants to score," said Nishino. "There's no such thing as a meaningless match, a match that doesn't matter."

Poland had high hopes following a successful qualification in which it won eight of its 10 matches. In two previous appearances at the World Cup, 2002 and 2006, Poland also lost its opening two games but went on to finish the tournaments with victories over the United States and Costa Rica.

"To put it in a nutshell, all hands on deck is the name of the game," said Poland coach Adam Nawalka. "The match tomorrow will be a game of honor."

Should Japan get through to the next round, it won't know which team it will face in the round of 16 until later Thursday when Group G comes to a conclusion. Belgium takes on England, both of which have already qualified after their two group wins against Panama and Tunisia.

Colombia, Senegal unafraid to show joy

Senegal and Colombia are keeping it loose at the World Cup while remaining focused on the goal.

Both teams are comfortable showing emotion, and there should be plenty when they meet Thursday in a decisive final group stage match in Samara.

Senegal, with its big following of jubilant fans, grabbed attention earlier in their tournament with a synchronized dance during warm-ups. It's a ritual for the Senegalese team which hasn't been to the World Cup since 2002. The warm-up dance was one of the viral moments of the World Cup so far on social media.

"This is our culture, you see? Joy, peace, hospitality. And, you know, happiness,"

See JAPAN on Page 38

ROUND OF 16 SCHEDULE

France VS Argentina	(July 1, 12AM)	Croatia VS Denmark	(July 2, 4AM)
Uruguay VS Portugal	(July 1, 4AM)	Brazil VS Mexico	(July 3 12AM)
Spain VS Russia	(July 2, 12AM)	Sweden VS Switzerland	(July 4 12AM)

NOTE: Pairings for two other playing days have yet to be determined (Schedule is based on Saipan Time)

Martinez hits record 25th HR, Red Sox top Angels
PAGE 36

Saipan Tribune
Sports

So many dominoes: LeBron can dictate free agency
PAGE 37

Carol stays in contention

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Carol Lee is the lone CNMI player left standing in the South Pacific Open Junior Championships 2018 as she advanced to the quarterfinals of the ranking tournament in Fiji.

Lee is seeded No. 1 in the Grade 4 competition and made it to the Round of 8 after sweeping her first two games at the Regional Tennis Centre Nadovu Park in Lautoka. The Commonwealth player dominated Japan's Ayaka Koga in the second round last Wednesday, 6-0, 6-2, and then also took only two sets to beat No. 16 Komaki Ido of Australia yesterday, 6-2, 6-0, to stay on course of winning the singles championship that eluded her last year.

The 16-year-old player bowed to Papua New Guinea' Violet Apisah in

See Carol on Page 38

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Carol Lee gets ready to serve during a single match in last month's Juniors ITF event on Saipan. She is now in Fiji and marched into the quarterfinals of the South Pacific Open Junior Championships 2018.

CNMI invited to 3x3 tourney in Indonesia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Mariana Islands Basketball Association is looking for a team that will represent the CNMI to the 2018 Mixed U-18 IBF Youth Leaders Basketball Cup that will be held in Indonesia in September.

Lia Rangamar, who attended last week's International Basketball Foundation Youth Leadership Seminar in Singapore, will be organizing a tournament on July 7 and 8 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium to select the squad that will compete in the inaugural 3x3 tournament at the Discovery Shopping Mall in Bali from Sept. 7 to 10.

The squad that will top the qualifier will be funded by IBF, the foundation arm of FIBA. Teams interested in joining next month's

See CNMI on Page 38

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Chinatown Titans player takes off for a layup against the Tanapag Warriors 1 during their U18 division game in the Diaz youth caging early this month. Players in the U18 age group are invited to form a team and join a qualifier for a 3x3 tournament in Indonesia.

4 swimmers enter finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Juhn Tenorio, Nelson Batallones, Christian Villacrusis, and Jinnosuke Suzuki marched into the finals of their respective events on Day 2 of the 12th Oceania Swimming Championships.

Tenorio and Batallones both raced in the 50m backstroke event last Wednesday at the Taurama Aquatic and Indoor Centre in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea and qualified to the finals. Tenorio clocked in at 31.36 seconds to finish at No. 14 (out of 25 swimmers), while Batallones was ranked No. 16 and also made it to the finals after posting 35.09 seconds. Batallones's preliminary mark broke his old personal best time (35.34 seconds). Tenorio and Batallones competed in the finals last Wednesday night, but results were unavailable at the event's website at press time.

In the 100m breaststroke, Villacrusis and Jinnosuke submitted 1:19.00 and 1:20.80, respectively to earn finals slots in the two-lap race. Besides moving into the finals, Jinnosuke also set a new PBT (from 1:22.40).

Sophia Gauran also earned a PBT in the 100m breaststroke after registering 1:32.14 (from 1:33.30) in the women's race.

See 4 on Page 38

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Nelson Batallones, seen here competing in the 100m freestyle race in a local tournament this year, qualified in the finals of the 50m backstroke event in the 12th Oceania Swimming Championships last Wednesday at the Taurama Aquatic and Indoor Centre in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.